

NBQA General Membership Meeting

01-19-23

Zoom

The January meeting of the Narragansett Bay Quilters Association was called to order at 6:30pm by Gail Macera.

Gail introduced our guest speaker for the evening, Veronica Mays, and her lecture titled "Daughter of Africa and America". Veronica was born in Newport and learned to quilt while living in Alaska. She primarily does art and portrait quilts, but also sews clothing and fabric postcards. Veronica presented a slide show of some of her work including a series of "Church Ladies" portraits and a series of "Harriet Tubman" quilts. Veronica is one of the featured Rhode Island quilters in the January 2023 issue of Quiltfolk magazine. Her website is conakysquilts.com and she is also on Facebook and Instagram.

President Gail Macera:

Gail welcomed members to the business meeting at 7:25pm.

Gail completed the application at JoAnn Fabrics for tax free purchases for the guild use only. See Gail or Blaire if you have any questions.

The monthly rent for the storage unit increased from \$135 to \$165.

At the January board meeting, the budgets were reviewed, and all committees are comfortable at this time.

Gail is looking for volunteers to create a committee of four for Programs for next year. She already has 2 people interested and is looking for 2 more. There will be more money available to plan next year's programs as we were very conservative with the budget for this year. Many hands will make light work for this committee. Please contact Gail if you are interested.

The Boutique will be held again at the March and May meetings. Fabric will be \$3.00 a yard. The Boutique has made more than \$3800 for the guild, so the fabric will drop from the previous \$5.00 a yard.

The April meeting will feature our silent auction. Any donations (including non-quilting items) can be brought to the March meeting. Volunteers are needed to help at the auction in April. Please contact Gail if you can help.

We are planning a show and tell after the March, April, and May meetings. We hope to see all the quilts you have been working on!

Secretary Mary Ann Laprise:

Minutes from the November 2022 meeting were emailed to all members by Louise Pankiewicz. Minutes were approved and seconded.

Treasurer Blaire Gagnon:

Checking Account Balance is \$14,512.30

Savings Account Balance is \$10,381.98

Report was approved and seconded.

Blaire brought up an issue at the last board meeting regarding the fees charged by our bank for returned checks. The board agreed that the fee should be paid by the member whose check was returned going forward. No one at tonight's meeting voiced an objection to this new policy. As not all of the members attended tonight's meeting, a notice will be sent to all members in a future communication.

Vice President Joan Potter:

"Scent Hearts" is a new guild project for the neonatal unit at Women and Infants Hospital. Five-inch prewashed flannel squares (washed in Free and Clear) have been put into kits for members to make hearts for the parents to transfer their scent to the flannel heart which will then be put in the incubator with the baby. These hearts help with the bonding process and provide comfort for the newborns. Directions will be provided on the website, newsletter, Facebook, and email. Kits can be picked up at Island Creations by Louise. It is important to sew these hearts with clean hands that have no lotion or scented soaps or perfumes on them. The hearts can be turned into Joan at the March meeting.

Joan still needs about 100 more maple leaf blocks for the 2025 raffle quilt. Instructions have been published in the newsletter. Please use a color wheel to select complementary colors for the blocks (opposite sides of the color wheel) and to use different fabrics so there will be a variety of blocks in the quilt (preferably no beige or white). Please mail your blocks to Joan Potter or give them to her at the March meeting.

The 2023 Summer Challenge will coordinate with the Comfort Quilt committee again this year. The finished quilts will be donated to DCYF for children in foster care.

Programs & Workshops Carol Ann Robertson:

Workshops below will be at Island Creations (unless specified as Zoom)

February 16, 2023	Lecture – Pam Weeks – “What About Jane Stickle?” (Zoom)
February 18 & 25, 2023	Workshop-Brita Nelson-“Making Magic: A Disappearing Block Sampler Quilt” (Zoom)
March 16, 2023	Lecture – Anthony Ferranti – “Maintaining Your Machine”
March 18, 2023	Pillowcase-A-Thon with Phyllis Cayer at Island Creations
April 20, 2023	Silent Auction
April 22, 2023	Quilt-A-Thon at Island Creations
May 18, 2023	Strawberry Social and Election of Officers
May 20, 2023	Workshop – Kassie Randall and Billie Bunnewith – “Have Your Cake and Sew It Too”

Carol Ann reported that the lecture and workshops with Marge Tucker will have to be rescheduled due to a family emergency. She will contact the members who signed up for the workshops as soon as she knows the new dates.

Carol Ann mentioned a workshop at Quilters by the Sea which has openings:

Elizabeth Decroos – “Glimmer Window Hanging” (stained glass effect using the ancient Korean art of Pojagi) on February 4. Please contact Carol Ann if you are interested.

Membership Anne Sabatini:

There were 65 members in attendance at tonight’s Zoom meeting and we have a total of 162 members.

Publicity – Barbara Stetson: (absent)

No report

Newsletter Paula Weston:

The January/February newsletter was sent out at the beginning of January. The March/April newsletter will be sent out at the beginning of March. More information is coming next month about the featured quilter for our March/April newsletter.

Website Patricia Andraka, Maria Knight: (absent)

No report.

Comfort Quilts Geri Bergreen, Barbara Hartford, Gail Macera:

Geri thanked everyone who participated in last year’s summer challenge to benefit comfort quilts. The MAE Organization in Cranston was very happy to receive our donation.

Gail reported that 6 quilts were recently donated to the Mother of Life Pregnancy Center in Providence. Gail read part of the thank you letter for this donation.

On March 18th a Pillowcase-a-thon will be held at Island Creations by Louise. Members can bring their own fabric or the guild will supply fabric. Bring your sewing machine or serger. Phyllis Cayer will demonstrate 3 different techniques for making pillowcases. All pillowcases will be donated to Hasbro Children’s Hospital.

Our next Quilt-a-thon will be held on April 22nd at Island Creation by Louise (if space allows).

Barbara Hartford has comfort quilt kits assembled. Please contact her if you are interested.

Door Prizes, Strip Exchange, Block of the Month - Melissa Smith:

Missy will put the prizes for the winners of Kahoots in the mail soon.

Education Committee Peggy Lane:

The committee made ornament kits for the Cranston library in December. They loaned some quilts to Smiths Castle and acted as docents. Peggy is meeting tomorrow with the staff at Smiths Castle to discuss future collaborations with NBQA.

Louise Pankiewicz – Special Events:

A bus trip to the Northern Star Quilters' Guild show in Purchase, NY is being planned for the beginning of May. More information coming next month.

Joany Rebecchi – Hospitality: (absent)

No report

Geri Bergreen, Tina Zuffoletti – Facebook:

Geri reminded members that posts on the private members only page must be approved. The general page is also active on Facebook.

Tina said to email her if you are having trouble connecting to our pages.

Librarian - Lynn Medeiros: (as reported by Gail)

The database of available books is still a work in progress.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Our next membership meeting will be on Thursday, February 16, 2023 (Zoom).

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Laprise
Secretary