

NBQA General Membership Meeting

02-16-23

Zoom

The January meeting of the Narragansett Bay Quilters Association was called to order at 6:31pm by President Gail Macera.

Carol Ann Robertson introduced our guest speaker for the evening, Pam Weeks. Pam's interest in quilting began in 1976 during the Bicentennial and in 1991 she began to focus on antique quilts and textiles, primarily signature and potholder quilts. Pam is the Binney Family Curator at the New England Quilt Museum and has authored several books including "Civil War Quilts", "Deeds Not Words", and "Portable Patchwork". Her email address is Pamela.weeks@gmail.com.

Pam's lecture tonight was called "What's New About Jane Stickle?" which focused on the life of the woman who designed and made the original "Dear Jane" quilt in 1863. Jane's niece Sarah donated the quilt to the Bennington Museum in Vermont and this quilt has been admired, studied, and copied for many years. There are 169 two color blocks (5,602 pieces, some as small as a quarter inch), each block is a different pattern, and no fabric is repeated in the quilt. Our own Lisa Bagian took one year to make a "Dear Jane" quilt which won a merit award at the 2022 NBQA quilt show. We also saw our own Brenda Devine's stunning "Dear Jane" quilt as well.

President Gail Macera:

Gail welcomed members to the business meeting at 7:22pm.

Gail is looking for one more volunteer for Programs for next year. Carol Ann will stay with Programs for another year and Deb Truchon has volunteered to help. 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 fabric will drop from the previous \$5.00 a yard and there will be a table of "free stuff".

Gail asked that anyone with a suggestion for a worthy cause to be considered for a donation of some of the proceeds of the silent auction to email her at jgmacera@cox.net.

Secretary Mary Ann Laprise:

Minutes from the January 2023 meeting were emailed to all members by Louise Pankiewicz. Minutes were approved and seconded.

Treasurer Blaire Gagnon:

Checking Account Balance is \$14,530.84 (as of 2/16/23)

Savings Account Balance is \$10,382.86 (as of 1/31/23)

Blaire noted that checks to pay the church and Veronica Mays have been sent.

Report was approved and seconded.

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 and Blaine’s Sewing Center. 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. Special thanks to Barbara LaPlume for making 84 scent hearts!

Joan still needs more maple leaf blocks for the 2025 raffle quilt. Instructions have been published in the January/February 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 (from birth to age 18). There will be fabric kits available for pick up at the May meeting. Quilts can be crib size (40x52) or twin size (68x93). A coordinating pillowcase would be appreciated.

Programs & Workshops Carol Ann Robertson:

Workshops below will be at Island Creations (unless specified as 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” (please bring donations for silent auction to March meeting)
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” at Island Creations
September 9 & 16, 2023	Marge Tucker (new dates) “Unmarked-Contemporary Walking Foot Quilting Workshop” \$50 (contact Carol Ann to sign up) 9am-12pm (Zoom)

Membership Anne Sabatini:

There were 55 members in attendance at tonight’s Zoom meeting and we have a total of 165 members (including 25 new members this year).

Publicity – Barbara Stetson: (absent)

No report

Newsletter Paula Weston:

The March/April newsletter will be sent out about March 4th. Be sure to read about our featured NBQA quilter in the March/April newsletter. Paula is planning to interview another NBQA quilter for the May/June newsletter as well.

Website Patricia Andraka, Maria Knight: (absent)

Gail noted that Pat and Maria created a new “Event Page” to be filled in for upcoming guild events. Pat will use this information to update the website.

Comfort Quilts Geri Bergreen, Barbara Hartford, Gail Macera:

There were 6 quilts recently donated to the Mother of Life Pregnancy Center in Providence.

On March 18th from 9 – 2 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. Natalie Fleischer has made some kits for pillowcases, too. All pillowcases will be donated to Hasbro Children’s Hospital.

Our next Quilt-a-thon will be held on April 22nd from 10 – 3 at Island Creation by Louise.

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

Missy will bring the prizes for the winners of Kahoots to the March meeting.

Education Committee Peggy Lane:

The officials at Smith Castle have invited the members of the NBQA Education Committee to set up displays and to provide hand sewing demonstrations at two of their upcoming events: the Strawberry Festival (June 24) and the Harvest Festival (September 23).

Louise Pankiewicz – Special Events:

A possible bus trip will be discussed at the March meeting.

Joany Rebecchi – Hospitality:

No report

Geri Bergreen, Tina Zuffoletti – Facebook:

Status quo.

Librarian - Lynn Medeiros: (as reported by Gail)

Pat Andraka is working on the database of available books for the library.

New England Quilt Museum – Karen Stanley: (absent)

Status quo.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Our next board meeting will be on Thursday, March 2, 2023 (at Island Creations)

Our next membership meeting will be on Thursday, March 16, 2023 (at the church).

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Laprise
Secretary