

NBQA General Membership Meeting

09-21-23

President Gail Macera:

The September meeting of the Narragansett Bay Quilters Association was called to order at 6:40 pm by President Gail Macera.

Before the business meeting, members could shop our boutique at greatly reduced prices. Gail said that the boutique will be held in October as well (for as long as our inventory holds). The completed summer challenge quilts were collected and displayed on the pew backs for members to vote for their favorite.

Gail introduced tonight's speaker, Jane Ahles. Jane is a DCYF Licensing Supervisor and has worked at DCYF for 27 years. In 2004 she took over the role of holiday donations chairperson and found that the children as well as the staff were brought joy by the generosity of the community. Last spring's quilt donations from NBQA were given to "vet" kids (age 18 – 22) who were aging out of the system's group and foster homes. The recipients were touched that someone made a quilt just for them. Jane said that she and the staff at DCYF are very appreciative of our beautiful quilts!

Gail also received a thank you from the Hope Alzheimer's Center for 2 quilts donated for their silent auction fundraiser to be held on Saturday at their "Soiree Under the Stars". The quilts were made by Linda Maslanka. Gail also donated a quilt that she made. Gail will attend the benefit with Barbara Hartford.

Gail asked our new members present tonight to stand and introduce themselves. The new members were invited to a Sit and Sew this Saturday.

Secretary Mary Ann Laprise:

Minutes from the May 18, 2023 meeting were emailed to all members by Louise Pankiewicz.

Minutes were approved and seconded.

Treasurer Blaire Gagnon:

Checking Account Balance is \$16,132.42

Savings Account Balance is \$10,388.89

Report was approved and seconded.

Blaire said that the proposed budgets were emailed to all the members. Please contact Blaire if you have any questions.

Vice President Joan Potter:

The Summer Challenge votes were counted and the winners are:

3rd place Linda Maslanka (\$20), 2nd place Colleen Giglio (\$30), and 1st place (\$50) Nancy Messier. Blaire will be sending checks to the winners.

The completed quilts were folded and put into their coordinating pillowcases and given to Jane Ahles for distribution at DCYF.

The 2025 raffle quilt “Colors in the Wind” was on display at the meeting. Joan handed out raffle tickets to the members present. If all the tickets are sold, the guild will make \$2000. Many thanks to Joan for collecting the blocks from members and assembling them into this beautiful quilt! Thanks also go to Blaire Gagnon for her beautiful long arm quilting!

Our next quilt show will be held on April 27 and 28, 2024 at the West Warwick Civic Center. There is lots of space so members are encouraged to submit as many quilts as they want. Quilts that were in our last show in October 2022 can be submitted as long as they were not judged. The quilt show application will be in the November newsletter and on the website. The deadline for submission is at the February 15, 2024 meeting or by mail to Diane Roberts (her address will be on the application). Judging is optional. For those who would like their quilt to be judged, there will be a \$10 fee for the 1st quilt and \$5 fee for any additional quilts. Judging will take place on March 16, 2024 at the Exeter library. Details about drop off and pick up will be announced. The judging will be done by the “elimination” method by a judge from New Jersey. Ribbons will be awarded only to judged quilts. There will be 2 categories for judging (Master and Artisan). The Master category includes quilters with a high level of proficiency, teach quilting, etc. The Artisan category will include everyone else.

The Education Committee is looking for volunteers to do a demo at the quilt show. Please contact Peggy Lane if you are interested in helping out.

Donations of small wall hangings and table runners are needed for the quilt show silent auction. Please see Karen Stanley or Joan Potter.

Donations for the basket raffle of completed baskets or items for baskets or just baskets can be given to Geri Bergreen starting in February. Items do not have to be quilt related.

Pat Pepin volunteered to chair the Mug Mat (handmade coaster) Committee.

Barbara Stetson will ask members to distribute posters to the community to advertise our quilt show when the posters have been printed.

Joan is looking for a volunteer to chair the take down committee for the quilt show. Joan will bring a sign-up sheet for the various jobs at the quilt show to the October meeting.

Set up for the quilt show will be on Friday, April 26, 2024. Admission will be \$10 (only pay once if you attend both days).

Programs & Workshops Carol Ann Robertson:

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

Thurs, Oct 19, 2023	Anthony Ferranti – “Maintaining Your Machine”
Sat, Oct 21, 2023	Rope bowl workshop <u>at the church</u> with Carol, Missy, and Mary
Sat, Nov 11, 2023	Quilt-a-thon <u>at the church</u>
Thurs, Nov 16, 2023	Colleen McFarlin from Beyond the Bolt in Bristol, RI “Color Theory and Variation” lecture
Saturday, Nov 18, 2023	“Iron Garden” workshop <u>at the church</u> (limit of 15 students)
December 2, 2023	Quilt In at Refuge Church, Warren, RI (\$15 includes lunch)
Thurs, Jan 18, 2024	TBD
Sat, Jan 20, 2024	TBD
Thurs, Feb 15, 2024	Brita Nelson “Now You See It, Now You Don’t: The Magic of Disappearing Blocks” (Zoom)
Sat, Feb 17 & 24, 2024	Disappearing Block Sampler Workshop (Zoom)
Thurs, Mar 21, 2024	Open
Sat, Mar ? 2024	Quilt-a-thon
Thurs, Apr 18, 2024	TBD
Sat, Apr 20, 2024	Sew In Finishing School <u>at the church</u>
Thurs, May 16, 2024	Strawberry Social – Election of officers
Sat, May 18, 2024	Kassie and Billie – workshop

Membership – Pat Hendrickson & Sheri-Lynn Bolduc:

There were 93 members in attendance at tonight’s meeting. Membership cards were handed out to those present at tonight’s meeting. There are currently 157 members.

Publicity – Barbara Stetson & Maybeth Cost: (as reported by Gail)

Nancy Messier has been designing a poster for our April quilt show.

Newsletter Paula Weston:

Please contact Paula at pweston528@gmail.com if you have a suggestion for a new quilter who has an interesting story to tell about their quilting journey for a future newsletter. Paula is also looking for ideas for a “quilter’s question” to include in the newsletter. The next newsletter will be sent out about November 5th.

Website Patricia Andraka, Maria Knight: (as reported by Gail)

Up to date.

Comfort Quilts Barbara Hartford:

Barbara Hartford thanked the many members who donated quilts tonight. The donated quilts were shown to the members and will be distributed to various charities at a later date. Our members are talented and very generous!

Education Committee - Peggy Lane:

The Harvest Festival at Smith Castle scheduled for September 23rd has been canceled due to the weather. The Education Committee already has 50 kits (each) ready for next year's Strawberry and Harvest Festivals at Smith's Castle. Please contact Peggy (drpalane@cox.net) if you would like to help the committee at the quilt show in April. New members are always welcome.

Louise Pankiewicz – Special Events:

No plans so far, but a possible trip to the New England Quilt Museum is being considered.

Tina Zuffoletti – Facebook: (as reported by Gail)

Status quo.

Librarian - Lynn Medeiros:

The library is ready to go! Please email Lynn at lynnm2@cox.net and Lynn will bring your selection to the next meeting. A couple of members have requested books so far and the guild will re-evaluate the library in a year.

New England Quilt Museum – Karen Stanley:

Karen and Deb Truchon plan to attend a "Meet the Teachers" event at the New England Quilt Museum in November. Gail noted that NBQA is now in the middle tier for donations to the museum which entitles the guild to a guided tour and a free admission for members. Gail noted that the guild received a thank you note from NEQM for our donation of over \$1000.

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

There were 29 blocks donated tonight and prizes were drawn for the block exchange and door prizes.

Show and Tell:

There was a show and tell after the business meeting adjourned. Several lovely quilts were shared!

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Our next membership meeting will be on Thursday, October 19, 2023 (at the church).

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Laprise
Secretary