

The NIMBLE THIMBLE

www.nbqa.org



Hello Ladies,

Dare I say it? Happy Spring? Let's hope so. I know I am anxious to start seeds indoors, but I am holding off a little while longer-it is New England after all. So much is going on with our wonderful guild!

We had a lovely time at the *Sit and Sew* on Saturday at Blaine's. There was a lot of laughing, singing, and learning with different demos. Karen Roy, at Blaine's, has assured me she will put together more dates for us to choose from so we can do this again. Such fun!

Programs has solidified all the speakers and workshops for our next guild calendar year 2025-2026 (excellent job!). We still need people for this committee to orchestrate these speakers and workshops, and need to start planning the 2026-2027 year. If you are the point person for a particular workshop, you take the workshop at no cost to you. So come on, talk to us, let us know whether you are interested in being on this committee **or** if you can just help.

This is what we have coming up:

General Membership meeting-Thursday, March 20th with Timna Tarr as our speaker. There are just a couple of spots left for her workshop (*Happy Days*) on Saturday, March 22nd from 11 am to 2 pm with pizza lunch provided.

General Membership meeting-Thursday, April 24th (remember this is a week later because of Easter). **No Boutique** because we will be having our **Silent Auction** from 6 pm to 7 pm. All the items for this auction are brand new, and we cannot wait for you to see everything. The workshop on Saturday, April 26th at Blaine's with Kassie and Billie (*Collide-o-Scope*) still has some openings, so please sign up!

General Membership Meeting- Thursday, May 15th- we will have the *Boutique* for the last time this guild calendar year, from 5 pm to 6:15 pm, followed by our Strawberry Social (this year dedicated to our members who have passed). Also, election of officers will be held, and an official announcement of *Programs* for the 2025-2026 guild calendar year will be given.

The workshops for Saturday, May 17th will be at two locations:

#1 Because it is Armed Forces Day, *Quilts of Valor* will be holding an open sew at Hut #3 at the Seabees Museum, 21 Iafrate Drive, North Kingstown from 9:30 am to 1 pm (no cost but you will need to sign up).

#2 At the United Methodist Church we will be holding an *Open Sew* for us to work on the raffle quilt for 2026. The pattern is Pat Sloan's *Secret Lives of Color* using the shoofly block. We will get the pattern out to you ahead of time, along with all other information needed. We will start at 9:30 am and can stay until 3:30 pm. You will need to register for this workshop, but there is no cost to you.

So, my friends, you can see how busy this guild is, and that is wonderful!

Very much looking forward to seeing you soon.
Best regards,
Gail Macera, NBQA President

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

March 20, 2025

April 24, 2025

United Methodist Church
1558 South County Trail
East Greenwich, RI
6:30 pm

TIMNA TARR'S O HAPPY DAY WORKSHOP

Saturday, March 22nd, 11 am to 2 pm

At the United Methodist Church, 1558 South County Trail,
East Greenwich, RI



Learn how to make appliqued circles five different ways while also having a great time! While playing with color, you will learn how to make perfect circles, using both hand and machine sewing. Come prepared to play, experiment, and have fun.

The cost of this workshop is \$30. There is a \$5 supply fee.

To register send your check, made out to NBQA, to Blaire Gagnon, 53 Spring Hill Road, Kingston, RI 02881

You will need:

- Assorted fabrics; should each be at least 4.5” square. Be sure to include a variety of colors and values.
- Neutral colored threads that generally match your fabrics
- Basic sewing supplies, including a sewing machine that can zig zag.
- Paper scissors
- Hand sewing needles. If you use a thimble, bring it as well.
- Small pointed fabric scissors

We will be learning both hand and machine applique techniques. If you plan to applique by machine, you may want to use a monofilament thread for the top and a cotton thread for your bobbin. Superior Thread’s *Mono-Poly* is a good choice.

Timna Tarr

timnatarr@gmail.com

www.timnatarr.com

“When Fabrics Collide-o-Scope” Workshop with Kassie and Billie

Saturday, April 26, 2025 10-3 p.m.

Blaine’s Sewing Machine Center

Fabric Requirements:

A full length of fabric that has at least four or eight repeats (plus a little extra for aligning). This could be anywhere from 2 1/2 - 4 yards of fabric. If you are not sure how to find the repeat, you can google it for resources and there are videos on YouTube as well. Your local quilt shop can also assist in identifying the repeat. **DO NOT cut** any of your fabric before class.

Fabrics that work well are: Bold, high contrast prints, medium to large scale prints- novelty, floral, abstract, panels, border prints with lines and/or rounded shapes, fabrics that would otherwise be considered “ugly ducklings” and may be in the markdown section.

Other Supplies: Sewing machine in good working order with a quarter inch foot; marking tool such as a chalk pencil, Frixion pen, etc.; flat head pins (not necessary but extremely helpful); basic sewing supplies- lots of pins, a rotary cutter and mat, rulers, scissors, thread, bobbins.

Gifts for the teachers (optional)

Any questions? E-mail us at billieb6@verizon.net or kassrandall@cox.net

The cost of workshop is \$30.00. To register send your check made out to NBQA, to Blaire Gagnon, 53 Spring Hill Road, Kingston, RI 02881. Don’t wait; this class fills up fast.



QUILTS OF VALOR



Quilts of Valor

The 'girls in Hut 3' returned on February 19 and started 2025 by awarding Kurt S. a QOV for his tours of service in Afghanistan and Iraq. Gail Macera pieced this beautiful quilt and Denise Greenlund put it on her longarm for us. Linda Maslanka hemmed the binding. Kurt and his dad Jack are holding the quilt in the picture above with their fellow Seabees around them and together in the picture on the right. Jack was awarded a QOV in December. Jack was stationed at Quonset and Kurt grew up in the area helping to set up the museum.

Below are some of the 'girls' from the hut. We have sorted the donations that we have received recently, have cut and assembled some quilt kits to check out when we are back together in person. If you checked out a kit/s over the year please return them by the May meeting. We'll have materials to check out if you are willing to sew during the summer. We are sewing on Wednesdays from 9:30-1:00. When the museum is open on Fridays we'll be there!



Please feel free to drop in. We are limited to sewing on Wednesday right now because our back up restroom has been winterized. If you are not into quilting you can help iron, cut fabric, bind or attach labels to completed quilts. Please contact Karen Iris if you are interested in joining the Quilts of Valor Foundation. kareniris@yahoo.com

GUIDELINES FOR DONATION QUILTS!!

When piecing a quilt for donation, be sure quality is part of the job!

- Check for accurate ¼” seams to ensure seams stay together securely!
- Backs are pieced, if needed, and large enough for the long armer. A rule of thumb is at least 4” extra backing material on each of the four sides.
- It is helpful if the raw edge of the quilt is stay-stitched all around.

These guidelines will help ensure all our donated quilts are of the highest quality possible.

EDUCATION

The Education Committee has been meeting with local organizations to ascertain their interest in having us present our free workshops to their clients. So far, the Narragansett Public Library has enthusiastically responded, asking us to present a one-time activity for kids in April, and a multi-visit project for adults in May/June. We are also due to meet with the Warwick Public Library in a few weeks to plan some activities with them for later in the year.

We have also re-designed the NBQA bookmark to contain more information on our organization so that it may function as a “pamphlet.” Since the Publicity Committee has a small budget, our committee will cover the cost of this first printing in order that the new bookmark may be available immediately. That way, we will have them to hand out at all of our activities for the rest of the year.

If you would like to join us to help out with our busy schedule, please contact Peggy Ann Lane.

IMPORTANT MEETING SCHEDULE CHANGE



Due to United Methodist Church’s Easter week activities, the April general membership meeting will be held on April 24th, NOT April 17th.

MEMBERS ONLY FACEBOOK GROUP

We have a Facebook group for members of NBQA. You can search for the Narragansett Bay Quilters group or click the following link to request to join:





<https://www.facebook.com/groups/810516923289299>

NBQA Summer Challenge 2025/2026: "Second Chance Stitches"


Reimagine. Recycle. Create!  


Join our 2025/2026 Summer Challenge: "Second Chance Stitches" and bring new life to old clothing!

Challenge Details:


-  Theme: Transform an old clothing item into a quilted creation.
 -  Materials: Use at least 50% of the fabric from the recycled item.
 -  Project Ideas: Create a quilt, purse, tote, pillow, or accessory (No wearable clothing entries).
 -  Size Requirements:
 - o Minimum: 10"x10"
 - o Maximum: 50"x65"
 -  Construction: Must have 3 layers and be quilted.
-
- ✓ Find an old item of clothing from your closet, a thrift store, or a friend's donation.
 - ✓ Reimagine it into a quilted item you would use today.
 - ✓ Submit your creation along with a photo of the original item at the September meeting.

Vote & Win!

 Attendees at the September meeting will vote for their favorite entry.

 Prizes will be awarded to the winners!

Let's give old fabrics a new purpose and stitch a sustainable future together!

 Questions? Contact Tina Zuffoletti tzuffoletti@gmail.com for more details!



QUILTER'S QUESTION

What are you doing when you aren't quilting?

Melissa Smith....Geocaching with husband. Playing with grandson.

Karen Bouris....When I am not driving family members to doctor's appointments, I always have a few projects going on in addition to quilting. I crochet (just finishing up a temperature blanket), knit, work on jigsaw puzzles. Also, I am a longtime choir member, and enjoy reading and traveling.

Joanne Brown.....Some of the things I do outside of quilting are sewing clothes and bags and enjoy several weekly zoom sewing groups. I also square dance, lead a weekly Bible Study, I am the leader for a 4-H club, sing in the church choir, am a Trekkie and Marvel fan, love doing crafts with the grandkids, and currently the president for the American Baptist Women's Ministries of RI.

Joan Potter..... I take my two grandsons to school every morning and pick them up in the afternoon. I also volunteer for my church in a variety of ways. And whenever the weather allows we try to get our Australian Shepherd out for some exercise.

Lori Lambert.... When I am not quilting, for the most part, I am working. I also spend time with my dog and enjoy coloring using an app.

Diane Roberts..... When I am not quilting, I am cooking and cleaning, food shopping and going to doctor visits (for eyes, hearing tests, dentist, dermatology, respiratory, and my PCP). In addition to my visits, I accompany my husband, my friend, my daughter and my grandson on their respective doctor visits; also, hospital emergency visits. I visit my father at the Assisted Living facility, pay his bills, pick up groceries, mostly snacks and treats, and take him out for car rides. I walk my dog, a three-year old Bichon Frise, named Oliver, every morning, unless it's raining or snowing. I also knit and go to yarn shops and fiber festivals. I usually knit or crochet at night while I watch MSNBC or some YouTube videos.

While I am engaged in all these activities, I am planning my next sewing or quilting session. Then, when I finally get a chunk of free time, I go to one of my machines and quilt. Before I know it, it is very late and I must go to bed. One more block. I believe this is why I have 13 UFOs! I'll bet you can relate!

Alice Hourihan.... When I am not quilting, I hold a volunteer position as a Diplomat with the Central Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce. In this position I do outreach to existing members of the Chamber and attend Chamber events including Morning Coffee, Leads Luncheons & networking after hours. I also sometimes attend ribbon cuttings for new or expanding businesses or those who have moved locations.

I also volunteer as a judge for Fisher College students taking Entrepreneurship & Human Resource classes. I volunteer to judge high school students at the statewide Academic Decathlon which is scheduled for March this year. In addition, I co-facilitate a remote job search working group for people over 50 looking for a new career.

Susan Smith....I enjoy doing counted cross stitch and I love to read.

QUILTER'S QUESTION cont'd

Steffanie Windus..... My husband and I make maple syrup! We have just put out almost 100 taps around our neighborhood. We have an evaporator in our barn for boiling it down. We'll collect every day for about 6 weeks then it ends for the year (and the clean up begins!) We are just a hobby operation but have a lot of fun doing it!

I also dance with the *Ladies of the Rolling Pin*, a Morris dance troupe. We practice in Wakefield and perform all over southern New England. We are always looking for more dancers. Come join us! (I only started two years ago with no dance experience. Now I love it!). In between, I read as much as possible, getting books from the local library. They are the best!

Merri Giorno.....Aren't quilting? I barely have any time to quilt. 3 days a week taking care of grandkids on the other side of CT. Being a landlord. Keeping a house, cooking meals and cleaning. Dog walking daily when here. Guild treasurer, and taking time for socialization & a glass of wine!

Phyllis Cayer.....Sewing for charity, gardening, cooking, enjoying time with friends.

Paula Weston.....When I am not quilting, I am playing piano. All my life I wanted to play, and finally, at the age of 55, I started lessons. You *can* teach an old dog new tricks. I will be playing for some nursing home residents soon. A very appreciative and forgiving audience. I also enjoy singing alto in the church choir, and my new endeavor, making sour dough bread without starter.

Janet Garner.....love to read, do jigsaw or crossword puzzles, and walk the dog, weather permitting. And baking is always fun.

Geri Bergreen.....Well that's an interesting question. I'm still working so that is one thing that I 'm doing but I dream of quilting ideas or projects I'm working on (don't tell my boss, LOL). Or, Cooking or baking something interesting. If it's Spring, Summer or Fall I'm playing in my Vegetable and Flower gardens to help with my soul. I just love to play in the dirt. Or I will be helping on my church council, of which I am a member, planning some type of event. Or planning my 50th Class reunion this year. And I cannot forget bowling on Tuesday night on my Ladies Bowling League. You asked what do I do when I don't quilt, thank goodness I hand quilt so when I watch my favorite TV show at night, I do get that done.



NEW ENGLAND QUILT MUSEUM

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025 AT 11 AM

Guest Speaker, Dr. Sabine Stanley

In conjunction with the Fierce Planets exhibition, the NEQM welcomes special guest speaker Dr. Sabine Stanley, Bloomberg Distinguished Professor in Planetary Science at Johns Hopkins University. The artists featured in Fierce Planets drew inspiration from Dr. Stanley's work in planetary science at Johns Hopkins University, the Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), and NASA, as well as her recent book, *What's Hidden Inside Planets?*

SABINE STANLEY, PhD WITH JOHN WENZ

What's Hidden Inside Planets?



Quilters by the Sea Spring Fling: A Festival of Quilts



Quilters by the Sea RI presents our Biennial Quilt Show. Over 100 quilts on display. Raffle baskets, vendors mall, boutique table, white elephant table, silent auction to benefit the New England Quilt Museum, Kid-friendly activities.

The Pennfield School
110 Sandy Point Avenue
Portsmouth, RI

April 26-27, 10AM – 4 PM

Admission: \$10; Children under 12 free



Raffle Quilt

NEW ENGLAND QUILT EXPO

CLASSES: Start Wednesday April 9, 2025

QUILT SHOW VENDORS HOURS:

Thursday April 10th , 9 am – 5 pm
Friday April 11th, 9 am – 5 pm
Saturday April 12th , 9 am – 3 pm

LOCATION: Center of NH Expo
Double Tree by Hilton
Manchester Downtown
700 Elm Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03101

VENDORS:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Martelli's | Wood Turnings by Cynthia |
| Ask Adele | Sew There! |
| Western Maine Machines | Oil Cloth Designs |
| Inova | Simply Sandy |
| Pintuck & Purl-Bernina | Perfect Pastimes and more..... |
| Pine Tree Quilt Shop | |
| A1 Quilting Machines | |

SPONSORS: Handi Quilter, YLI Threads, Bits n Pieces Quilt Shop, Paradise Quilting, Patches Quilt Loft & Embroidery & TNT Quilt Boards, Nashua Sew and Vac, Crinkle Dreams

Hands Across the Valley Quilters Guild presents our 19th



Hands All Around Quilt Show May 3 & 4

Hampshire College
893 West St. (Route 116)
Amherst, MA

10 am – 4 pm each day
(opening for physically challenged at 9:30 am)

More than 200 Quilts!

SPECIAL EXHIBIT

**“From Lobstah to Green Monstah:
What’s Best About New England”**

from the New England Quilt Museum

Plus:

**Mini-Quilt Sale
Raffle Quilt**

**Demonstrations
Raffle Baskets**

**Vendors Food
Quilt Appraisals**

Adults: \$10; age 12 and under: free
Students and Military: \$5 (must show ID)

FREE PARKING

Visit www.handsacrossthevalley.org for details.

Raffle Quilt detail above: “Frolic” Design by Bonnie K. Hunter

Patterns in Concrete

This exhibition presents a selection of quilts done by members of the Boston Modern Quilt Guild to address a range of personal narratives, social issues, and formal explorations. Many of these pieces were created during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, exploring both personal and social tension, change and a slower pace to explore the world

FEBRUARY 2 to MAY 5, 2025

Boston City Hall
1 City Hall Square
Boston, MA

Monday – Friday, 9AM – 5 PM
Admission: Free



Art Evolved: Intertwined-Brockton, MA

Intertwined is a collaboration between Studio Art Quilt Associates and The National Basketry Organization. It highlights the connections between quilting and basketry as well as the relationship between beauty and functionality.

MARCH 1 to AUGUST 31, 2025

Fuller Craft Museum
455 Oak Street
Brockton, MA

Tuesday – Sunday, 10 AM – 5 PM

Admission: Free (donations welcomed)





Dear Members,

At each monthly meeting, starting In March 2025 until March 2026, I will be collecting items to put together theme baskets for the 2026 Quilt Show Basket Raffle.

A single theme has been selected for each *in person* meeting. Members may bring in items associated with that month's theme. Categories are listed below. A basket will be available for you to drop in your donation.

March 2025 - Fat Quarters & Notions

April 2025 - Quilting Books

May 2025 - Patterns

September 2025 - Kits

October 2025 -Knitting

November 2025 -Holiday

March 2026 - Jelly Rolls



Here are some suggestions for additional theme baskets

- **Cooking**
- **Staycation**
- **Pet Care**
- **Movie Theme**
- **Coffee/Tea**
- **Italian food**
- **Beach Bag**
- **Chocolate Lovers**
- **"You Bring Sunshine to My Life" (filled with all yellow items)**
- **Scrapbooking**
- **Gardening**
- **Car Care**

If individuals or groups of members would like to make a full theme basket for the 2026 show, please let me know.

I am also looking for a few members to be on the *Basket Raffle Committee* to help with arranging baskets, deliveries to basket winners, and setup and take down of the booth at the 2026 Quilt Show. Please contact me at tbgeri@aol.com if interested.

Thank you in advance for supporting the guild's fundraiser.

Geri Bergreen

Basket Raffle Chair

NBQA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2026



ALL MEMBERS:

- Receive a membership list & membership card which may entitle the member to discounts at local quilt shops.
- Receive five bimonthly newsletters via email & summer edition. * May submit quilts to the biannual quilt show.
- Access to Members only NBQA Facebook page. * Participation in Fabric Challenges and Mystery Quilts.

FULL MEMBERS – GUILD LIMIT 250 FULL MEMBERS	ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May attend all meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May attend 2 meetings per year.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May enroll in all workshops and trips. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be wait listed for unfilled workshops and trips.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New full members will receive a name pin to wear to meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be given a priority position on the waiting list for full membership.

Membership dues are not prorated for a partial year.

Bring this completed form with cash/check to a meeting or mail this completed form with a check made out to NBQA.

(DO NOT MAIL CASH) to: **Pat Hendrickson, 13 Greenwich West Dr., West Greenwich, RI 02817**

- I AM A CURRENT MEMBER RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP (Payment due by July 1, 2025)
 Full membership \$35.00 (check enclosed if mailed) Associate Membership \$15.00 (check enclosed if mailed)
 I AM A NEW MEMBER
 Full membership \$35.00 (check enclosed if mailed) Associate Membership \$15.00 (check enclosed if mailed)
 MAIL MY MEMBERSHIP LIST TO MY HOME ADDRESS (include an additional \$3.00 for postage).

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY – ESPECIALLY THE EMAIL ADDRESS AND EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

MEMBER NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT

NAME _____ PHONE _____

RELATIONSHIP TO YOU _____

What type of programs or speakers would you be interested in? _____

MEMBERS: Would you like to help by helping on a committee?

Please check your choice(s) and the appropriate committee chairperson will contact you.

- Hospitality Door Prizes NE Quilt Museum Block of the Month Programs Comfort Quilts
 Membership Publicity Quilts of Valor Newsletter Quilt Show Educational Historian
 Other: _____

To be completed by NBQA.

Amount Rec'd _____ Check# _____ Member list mailed _____ (\$3.00 fee)

PHOTO/VIDEO RELEASE FORM: I hereby give permission for images of me and my quilts, captured during NBQA events through video, photo and digital camera, to be used solely for the purposes of the NBQA promotional material and publications, and waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

NARRAGANSETT BAY QUILTERS' ASSOCIATION

FULL Zip BLACK FLEECE VEST

Color: BLACK

EMBROIDERY WILL BE THE NBQA LOGO ON LEFT FRONT; NAME ON RIGHT--OPTIONAL

Cost: 30.00 SM-XL; 32.00 2XL

ADD\$3.00 FOR NAME

FULL name _____ *please print clearly*

Size: (Sm, Med, Lg, XL, 2XL, 3XL) _____

CONTACT INFO: _____

NAME TO BE EMBROIDERED: _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OUT TO EMBROIDERY SEWING CO.

EMBROIDERY SEWING CO.

DENISE GREENLUND

74 CLUBHOUSE ROAD

WEST GREENWICH, RI 02817

ANY QUESTIONS: 401-480-6567





Narragansett Bay
Quilters' Association
PO Box 614
East Greenwich, RI 02818
www.nbqa.org

THE NEW ENGLAND QUILT MUSEUM
18 Shattuck St, Lowell, Massachusetts 01852
phone: 978-452-4207



By car:

Lowell is located 28 miles north of Boston off Interstates 93 and 495 and Route 3. From Route 3 take exit 30B northbound or exit 30A southbound onto I-495 towards Lawrence. From I-495 take exit 35C onto the Lowell Connector. Continue about 2 miles to Exit 5B onto Thorndike St.

At the 4th light, Thorndike Street merges into Dutton Street. Go to the 2nd light and turn right onto Market Street.

The museum's changing exhibitions, Brown Bag Lectures, gallery talks, and special events are updated weekly at nequiltmuseum.org.