



NBQA General Membership Meeting
October 17, 2024
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
The United Methodist Church of East Greenwich
1558 South County Trail

Minutes

The October General Membership meeting was called to order by Gail Macera at 6:35 p.m.

Prior to the meeting members signed in at the Membership table and were given tickets from Pat Hendrickson and Sheri Bolduc for the drawing held at the end of the meeting. Members had the opportunity to purchase beautiful new fabric and kits from Tina Zuffoletti and Roxanne Williams at our first Boutique table. At the Programs table Karen Stanley was accepting registration signups for the various workshops being offered this year. In the Friendship Hall our new members, Joan and Amy (a mother/daughter team) provided a wonderful display of cake and cupcakes for members to enjoy at the refreshment table. Barbara Hartford took charge of our second Boutique table that had a wide assortment of yardage at great prices. Sarah Bannister and Karen Iris worked the Comfort Quilt tables checking out kits and receiving finished projects for both our Charitable Organizations and Quilts of Valor.

Karen Stanley opened the evening by explaining the process for workshop registration at the Event table. See below for the choices.

- October: Blaire Gagnon-Vintage Project
- November: Comfort Quilt Sew In (11/16)
Debby Wendt-Binding with a purchased kit (includes ruler) (11/21)
- December: Holiday Party with luncheon @ NK Masonic Temple (12/8)
- January: Scarlet Rose-Celtic applique (very modern) Zoom (1/16 and 1/18)
- February: 1st National QOV Sew Day
Michelle Benton-Dresden Plates Zoom (2/20 and 2/22)
- March: Timna Tarr-Flying Colors Happy Days (3/20)
- April: Silent Auction (4/24)
Billie and Kassie (4/26)
- May: Election of Officers (5/15)
Strawberry Social
5/17 Armed Forces Day
Fidget Quilts (5/31)

Karen Stanely mentioned that you can go online to get information about the New England Quilt Museum (NEQM) She warned that the main road for the Museum is a work in progress as they remove the cobble stones from the area so be careful. There is a strong possibility that there will be a field trip to the NEQM this spring. Details will be available when they are complete. She also asked for feedback from anyone that took advantage of the Sampler Program that was offered recently. If you participated and found a presenter that you would like to see in person, please contact her to help them plan for programs for the 25/26 offerings. karenstanley@mac.com

Karen then introduced Blaire Gagnon, the presenter for the evening who did a wonderful job of presenting her quilting journey of over 35 years. Blaire explained that she is a 'hunter of fabric treasures' that have influenced her as a quilter. You never know what you will find. Buy what you won't make and make them your own. When asked where to look for treasure she offered a few sources: estate sales, antique stores, Facebook entries, and decluttering offerings online. Some of the many ideas that were presented were: The goal is to use old to inspire new and you don't have to have a specific plan to get started. You can start small and work up to larger projects. There may be a need to clean or brighten older materials and she recommended Retro Clean and Synthrapol as products she uses.

The program ended at 7:40 and Gail called the business meeting to order at 7:47.

Gail welcomed everyone and asked that phones be silenced. New members were asked to introduce themselves. Many of the new members had worn their "I'm new" badges which helped others welcome and help them to the evening.

Gail asked for corrections to the minutes of the September 19th, 2024, General Membership meeting that was emailed to all. She made a motion to amend the minutes to correct the omission of the name of a winner for the Summer Challenge . There was a tie for third place. Harriet Simoneau will be added to the minutes. Gail made a motion to accept the amended minutes of the September 19th, 2024, meeting. All in favor. The motion was passed.

Blaire Gagnon, treasurer, reported that the Checking account balance is \$25,257.82. The savings account balance is \$2,399.77. There is \$8,000.00 in the CD at 4% interest. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report. All in favor. Motion passed.

Blaire also explained that she has a large project starting that requires embroidery for a memory quilt. She asked that anyone who might be interested in working on this project should contact her. gagnonblaire@gmail.com

The members were asked to vote on the budget for 2024-2025. It was discussed at last month's meeting and was emailed to all members. At the last meeting Blaire also sat in the foyer with her laptop, with QuickBooks, to answer any questions.

Gail made a motion to accept the Budget for 2024-2025. All in favor. Motion passed.

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REPORTS

Gail Macera, President

Gail explained the Quilters Holiday Party to be held on Sunday, December 8th at the North Kingstown Masonic Temple. Please contact Programs if you are planning on attending. The space is somewhat limited in the number of members that can attend. Many members commented that it is an event not to miss.

Programs: Deb Truchon: dtruchon14@gmail.com Karen Stanley: karenstaley@mac.com

Gail referred to a request from Dotty Calvano's suggestion that it might be worthwhile to have someone at a future meeting to sharpen scissors. It was researched and the price would be \$12.00 per pair. A show of hands indicated that this was a good idea. It will be arranged in the spring when the sharpening can be done outside so that filings won't be left in the building.

Karen Iris, Secretary/Group Leader for Quilts of Valor.

Karen reported that the schedule for sewing at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park is adjusting. There will be no sewing on Friday October 18, 2024. There will be sewing on Wednesday October 23 and Friday, October 25th. Starting November 1, 2024, the SMMP will be changing to their "cold weather" schedule. They will be open on Wednesday and Saturday from 9:30-2:30. They will be closed on Wednesday. There will be no sewing at Hut 3 from November 1 to November 19, 2024. Hut 3 will be available for sewing on Wednesday 11/20, Friday 11/22 AND Saturday 11/23. We will determine interest in sewing the week of Thanksgiving. Please be advised that the Hut may be chilly first thing in the morning so please dress accordingly. There is heat, but it may take a little while for it to be comfortable. There are also some space heaters available. As mentioned, before we are so very thankful to Joe and Gail Frigon for being so supportive of our QOVF group, Quilts Hope, Rhode Island. Please support the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park and visit the property. Bring your family, friends and company to see this wonderful historical experience. Remember too that they are a donation based/volunteer effort and are very thankful for all contributions.

In addition, Karen reported that she, Linda Maslanka and Sarah Bannister were able to award a Quilt of Valor to Lt. Madeliene Grace, a 102-year-old Army Air Corp nurse at the Chapel Hill Living Center in Cumberland.

Karen, Bev and Sarah displayed 2 quilts that were returned prior to the meeting; one that was pieced by Fran and just off the longarm of Michele. The first was displayed to show what a quilt will look like before it is trimmed and bound. It is very important when bringing a quilt top to a longarm quilter that your backing has 4 inches added to the top, bottom and both sides so that all areas will be completely quilted. Blaire also commented that when you get your quilt back try not to trim threads close to the edge. The second quilt displayed was pieced by Bev and quilted by Karen. Quilts of Valor do not have to be just red, white and blue. If you have any questions, feel free to drop by Hut 3 to see the patterns and finished quilts there.

Sandy White reported that the inventory of Quilts of Valor is growing. We have approximately 25 completed quilts. Approximately half have been donated by quilters from other guilds. Pictures are being taken as quilts are completed to create a visual collection and designs are being titled. As part of the kits offered prior to meetings some completed quilts need bindings or labels hemmed. There will also be kits for specific blocks or complete kits for you to piece. If you are interested, please stop by. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Sheri Bolduc, Pat Hendrickson, Membership.

Pat reported that there are 176 paid members now and there were 80 members in attendance for the evening. Pat also mentioned that if you need a name tag button, please contact Sheri. Sbolduc182@gmail.com

The list of members was emailed out the first week in October.

Paula Weston, Newsletter

Paula thanked everyone for responding to her Quilters Question: "What Are You Listening to In Your Sewing Area?" She has enjoyed the responses so far and it is not too late to reply! The newsletter will be completed and printed around November 9th so please don't wait too long.

Paula also reported that a member had asked to have an ad in the newsletter. She has not received the business card needed to complete the ad. Please get in touch with Paula if you are still interested.

pweston528@gmail.com

Roxanne Williams, Historian

Roxanne is taking lots of pictures. She and Gail have asked that if you are a long-time member and have prior year books, please go through them and see if you can find the names of prior presidents. If you have memorabilia that can be used in the 50th Anniversary: Golden Threads please contact Roxanne: roxienana6@gmail.com

Patricia Andraka, Maria Knight, Website

Maria said that all is going well.

Comfort Quilts/The Boutique – Right now we are rebuilding our inventory of comfort quilts. We will have one more selling of fabrics and kits at the November meeting and then not again until March when we meet in person. The funds that are raised when you purchase fabric and kits goes back to the membership. Now that the weather is getting colder the organizations that NBQA donates to are going to be needing all that we can provide.

Peggy Lane, Education Committee

Peggy and her committee meet before the General Meetings and are planning for the future. They want to dig deeper into what might be beneficial to offer the public. If you have suggestions, please contact Peggy: drpalane@cox.net

Maybeth Cost/Barbara Stetson, Publicity - status quo.

Louise Pankiewicz, Special Events

Louise is working to provide a bus trip to the New England Quilt Museum. Details will be published when the plans have been completed.

Tina Zuffoletti, Facebook

All is going well

Karen Stanley, New England Quilt Museum

See above

Lynn Medeiros, Door Prizes

There was a glitch in communication for the door prizes available for the evening. Gail was able to get in touch with Joe, who came to the rescue. Applique Kits to create tea towels were used as door prizes for the night and a promise was made that next month there will be more prizes offered. Eight prizes were awarded to the members who were present to win.

Show and Tell! Beautiful pieces were displayed!

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27.

The next general membership meeting (in person) will be November 21st.

Gail A. Macera, President, NBQA

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Iris
Secretary