



Marathon Quilter's

Newsletter

February is the month of love – spread more love! Our next meeting will be held on Valentine's Day, Tuesday, **February 14, 2017**, 6:30 p.m. for greetings, 7:00 for the formal start. Look forward to seeing all of you!*

February Meeting Activities

Our *Big Reveal* of the Valentine's Quilt Challenge will finally take place at our February meeting! The theme is friendship. Please make a quilt no larger than 40"x40" and bring it to our February 14th meeting as a surprise. Each quilt must contain some silver and/or gold (fabric, trim, paint, embellishments, etc.). Other colors can be used. The design, pattern and techniques are your choice. There will also be a photo transfer demo and toothbrush rug activity at our February meeting.

Marathon Quilters Boutique - Plan for 2017 and 2018

Yvonne and Nancy have put in a tremendous amount of time and already have a plan to create inventory to sell at the 2017 Hopkinton PolyArts Festival (Saturday, September 16, 2017), the 2018 MQG Quilt Show and the 2018 Hopkinton PolyArts Festival! The money made from each of these events will allow the Guild to bring in speakers and pay for materials used for charitable projects. The plan is to create a limited number of unique handcrafted items to sell to excited pet owners, sports team fans, and thoughtful gift shoppers. Please consider joining in this effort.

As part of February's guild meeting agenda, Nancy and Yvonne will have completed samples of each project ready to show and explain. They have coordinated a schedule with Becky to hold "Boutique Workshops" at Becky's studio when members can come together and sew pre-made kits of each project that they will provide to participants.

—We are also interested in selling some Guild member-made quilts at each of these Boutique events and will put the call out for requests for donations of crib and lap size quilts AFTER we have the Workshops in motion.

Boutique Workshops Schedule:

The free Boutique Workshops will be held from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Becky MacDonald's yellow barn studio (1038 Washington St., Holliston) on the following dates:

- Sunday, February 26
- Sunday, March 12
- Saturday, April 22
- Saturday, May 20

All project materials (fabric, lining, buttons, etc.) and directions will be provided by Yvonne and/or Nancy at each workshop. Members are asked to bring their sewing machines, needles, scissors, rotary cutters, etc. and their sunny dispositions. Refreshments will be provided and all completed projects will be accumulated and stored for the future sales.

**If you are interested in helping with these projects but cannot make these workshops, let Yvonne (yjp1039@comcast.net) or Nancy (nancyb88@hotmail.com) know, and they will provide you with pre-made kits and directions for you to work on the items independently.

Boutique Workshop Materials Wish list

If you have any of the items that you would like to donate, that would be fabulous! We thank you in advance for considering the list. Please bring your donations to the February Guild meeting. The list includes the following:

- Scrap cotton batting - pieces 20 x 20 or larger
- Solid color buttons - 1/2" in size
- New tennis balls
- Small print holiday fabric
- Box of flat-head dressmaker or sequin straight pin

---If you already have completed Quilted Christmas Ball ornaments or other handmade ornaments that you would like to donate NOW, please bring them to the February Guild meeting, and they will be accumulated and stored for the future sales.

If you have questions, cautions or suggestions, please feel welcome to share them for consideration. We are looking forward to creating some great things together!

MQ Quilt Stay-cation – Many thanks to all who responded to the survey. The results are in! We will have our Quilt Retreat at Becky's barn studio this year. The dates are Thursday, March 16 through Sunday, March 19.

Based on the survey results, Kelsey and Jean will do a fun Half Square Triangle Race workshop on Saturday, March 18. It will combine a little bit of mystery, a little competition and a lot of fun, and you will have a 60"x60" completed quilt top to take home with you. We will make kits available for anyone who wants one for \$45. Kits will include enough pre-cut half square triangles to make the quilt top, and are available in blacks and whites, or batiks.

We will not be doing the Secret Sister during the retreat, but there will be a few fun surprises and games along the way.

To sign up, please e-mail Jean at jeanber65@hotmail.com and let her know which day(s) you are planning to attend, so that we can be certain we have enough tables, chairs, stations, etc.

Upcoming Shows and Announcements – Please notify Cathleen (cdinsmore@verizon.net) if you'd like to post anything happening in the quilt and art circles that might be of interest to the rest of the guild in the coming year.

Wayside Quilters Guild will meet Monday, February 6, 2017 at 7pm at the Grange Hall, Sudbury Center, 326 Concord Road for "Sew-social," an evening with heart and chocolate and of sharing techniques, tips and talents. Bring your "show and tell" of finished and almost finished quilts and wall hangings. "Caring Hearts" will be made available to be worked on during the meeting or taken home. Outreach kits will also be available to take home. This is an opportunity to learn simple hand sewing and appliqué techniques in the company of like-minded quilters and stitchers. Come join us.

The Peabody Historical Society is seeking submissions for its Miniature Quilt Challenge! Entries will be exhibited at the Smith Barn in Peabody, MA on April 1 & 2, 2017. Quilters of all levels are invited to participate in the Peabody Historical Society's third annual miniature quilt challenge: "Inspired by Time: Women of Peabody." Participants will choose one woman from a selection of historical Peabody women and create a miniature quilt inspired by her life story, historical time period, or quilt examples dating from her lifetime. There is no entry fee to participate in this challenge. Visitors will have the opportunity to cast a vote for their favorite quilt, and Viewers' Choice ribbons will be awarded to the top three entries, including a \$100 cash prize for first place. Entry forms must be received by Monday, March 6, 2017 to participate in the challenge and exhibit. For more information, <http://www.peabodyhistorical.org/2016/08/quilt-challenge-revisited/>.

Marathon Quilters on FACEBOOK

Join Marathon Quilter's Facebook Group. . . . Search for Marathon Quilters and submit a request to join. This is a great place to share pictures of what you are working on, inspiration or ideas you think the group would be interested in and ask questions of the group.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!! Our February Birthday Girl . . . Linda

*Please note the quilt image on the first page of this newsletter is from Tales from the Traveling Art Teacher and a quilt made by 4th graders for Black History Month, which was inspired by Faith Ringgold's community quilts. The link for more information can be found at <http://talesfromthetravellingartteacher.blogspot.com/2013/04/community-quilts-with-4th-grade.html>.