



Marathon Quilters Newsletter March, 2025

Next Meeting On March 11, Pam Weeks, from the New England Quilt Museum will be with us to talk about the history of storytelling in quilts. Historically, quilts and textiles were a vehicle for raising social awareness and protest. Stories were quilted into bed coverings as early as 1400, and protest quilts go back to 1830. The guild meets at Faith Community Church, 146 E. Main St, Hopkinton. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Pam started making quilts as a result of the craft revival inspired by the Bicentennial in 1976. By the mid-1980's she was designing her own work, and considered herself an art quilter. In 1991 she meandered down a different avenue when she took a class on reproducing antique quilts and was hooked on quilt history. She has written a book on Civil War quilts made for soldiers.

She has the job of her dreams as the Binney Family Curator of the New England Quilt Museum. She works with many different quilters, collectors, institutions, and co-conspirators to plan exhibits for the museum, and research the quilts in the museum's collection.

<https://www.portablepatchwork.com/index.html>

The Quilt Show

The Invitational Quilt Exhibit is also going extremely well. Only one town panel (Brookline) is



unclaimed. The individuals who are working on the panels met a few weeks ago and excitement is building. We still have Brookline available so let Jean or Nancy know if you have any ideas on who might be interested in working on it. We are very excited about the ongoing planning for

display at the New England Quilt Museum and Houston International Quilt Festival. This project will really raise awareness about our guild and hopefully help draw in new members!

Thanks to all for a great quilt show discussion at the February meeting. Planning is well underway, with lots of volunteer engagement. There are only a few tasks left unclaimed:

- Quilt Show Challenge: Create challenge(s) for show and coordinate collection and reveal at show
- Community Art Project: Create an engaging, hands-on project for show attendees to participate in.
- Additional long-arm quilters to volunteer to quilt some of the raffle quilts.



From Angelines and Nancy Boutique/Fundraising Coordinators

In the 14 months ahead of the 2026 Quilt Show, we have opportunities to promote the guild by selling some of our handmade items in the community, summer Farmer's Markets, the 2025 Hopkinton Polyarts event, and the 2025 Holiday Marketplace at the Hopkinton Center for the Arts (HCA) - in addition to the Quilt Show. To clarify for new members/set expectations here are the particulars:

Boutique

- In the Boutique, all of the items are made by Guild members and DONATED to the Guild to sell throughout the two days of the Quilt Show.
- 100% of the sale of each item is kept by the Guild.
- Materials to make the sale items are made with Guild stash fabrics and or member purchased/donated materials.
- Finished items are handed in at a pre-determined time to the Boutique Coordinators for them to price and put out for sale.
- Pricing will be determined by the Angelines and Nancy using historical sales data and online research with the goal of selling as much as possible over the two days of the Quilt Show.
- Prices will NOT be reduced over the course of the Show.
- All unsold items will be offered to be returned to the maker UNLESS the maker directs the us to keep the items in the Boutique inventory.

Farmer's Market, Polyarts and other "Booth" events

- Handmade items for these events will be a combination of Boutique inventory AND "Consignment creations" - handmade items offered for a profit split sale.
- Consignment creations are handmade by Guild members and provided to Angelines and Nancy for them to price and set out for sale.
- Consignment creations are made using the makers supplies.
- Consignment creations will be priced for sale - BUT - a price by the maker can be honored.
- The sale profits will be split 50% for the member and 50% for the Guild for these items.

*Creating for donation or consignment is NOT a requirement.

**At each meeting, the Angelines and/or Nancy will give an update on what inventory they have and what more they think will be good sales items for members to consider. The intention is to have a well curated, tasteful display at each sales opportunity.

Stay tuned for updates and a proposed Saturday, May 3rd Sew-In (location TBD) to get together and sew inventory.

New England Quilt Museum www.neqm.org

- **Summer Celebration of New England Quilts**
- On August 12 - September 6, the museum will showcase works from the many dynamic quilt guilds located in the New England region.
- The Supporting Guilds of the NEQM are tasked with selecting one quilt made by a member(s) to display in this biennial exhibition. That means us!
- The goal of the NEQM is to present an array of vibrant, distinctive and finely crafted quilts. Other Lowell cultural partners within walking distance to the NEQM will join the celebration by hosting their own free quilt and fiber arts exhibitions.
- NEQM visitors will be asked to vote for their favorite quilt. At the exhibition's conclusion, the guild with the most votes will be honored with the opportunity to host an exhibition of its members' work in the NEQM Genre Gallery next year.
- During this community event, admission to the NEQM is voluntary. "Pay What You Wish" allows everyone the opportunity to learn and find inspiration, celebrate the handcrafted, and introduce new audiences to the art of quilt making.
- With our Guild membership we have guest passes that admit 4 people FREE. Contact Michelle Banton for the passes. Parking is available 2 blocks away in the National Park Service lot on Dutton St.

Check us out on the Web www.marathonquilters.com

Email - marathonquilters@groups.io.

Sew Many Possibilities

The HCAM fiber arts show "Sew Many Possibilities" can be viewed at

<https://www.hcam.tv/sewmanypossibilities> To access the individual videos, click the three lines in the upper right corner of the displayed video.

Leadership 2024-2025

Executive Team

President – Karen Swiech

Vice President – Angelines Castro

Treasurer – Linda Grant

Teams/Committees

Programs – Mary Ann Fenton, Pat Silvestri, and Michelle Banton

Boutique Coordinators – Angelines Castro & Nancy Burdick

Quilt Show 2025 Coordinators – Nancy Burdick & Jean Bertschmann

Charity – Sandy Scardato Hospitality – Kerry Creswell

Webmaster – Dawn Stewart Newsletter – Linda Grant