

# **MERRIMACK VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD**

*Encouraging the art of Quilting in the Merrimack Valley, MVQ was established in 1980*

*February 2024*



## **Executive Committee** **2023 – 2024**

President: Lynette Pisani Vice

President: Jamie Ruh

Secretary: Wendy Ward

Treasurer AP: Diane Kelley

Treasurer AR: Elizabeth Swan

Go to [MVQuilters.org](http://MVQuilters.org) and look under the board member section for the full list of all the board and standing committee members.

To reach any committee member, please address any correspondence to:

MVQ Guild, PO Box 566

Haverhill, MA 01831

Newsletter submissions can be sent to Lori Josephson at [lojo0617@gmail.com](mailto:lojo0617@gmail.com). The deadline is the first Friday of the month at midnight.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Groundhog's Day again! We are halfway through winter!

February is our UFO Auction. It is the Main Event and is well underway. Please consider signing up to help both Sue Spinelli and Stacy Caruso either on sorting day, for setting up, for cleaning up or however they may need extra help. This is one of our most fun events and it's always a huge success because of everyone's collective efforts. The business meeting will be abbreviated this month so we can get to the Main Event. There will be no show and tell this month.

We are still looking for people to fill open positions. It's a wonderful way to meet and make friends, and filling these positions keeps our guild active, organized and moving forward. We need your help and you are not alone. There is help from past officers and Chair people always available. Please consider helping out. As Uncle Sam says..."We Need You"

Workshops are open for sign up. If you are considering one or more, please sign up now. If we don't get enough response by contract deadlines we are forced to cancel. Signup can be done on our website or at a meeting.

Lynne  
Lynette Pisani  
President, MVQ

## **Next Meeting:**

Scheduled for February 15th

UFO Auction

All are welcome – you do not need to be a guild member to attend this meeting.

There is no Sew and Know this month due to UFO Auction setup.

Members with last names beginning with F – H are responsible for refreshments this month.

This meeting is IN-PERSON at NECC.

Meetings start at 7:00 pm.

## **Guidelines for Coming to the Northern Essex Community College Campus**

When on the NECC campus, you are asked to follow the protocols as set out by the federal, state, and local government.

- Although we have seen a promising decline in COVID-19 cases in Massachusetts, the NECC Public Health Response Team still recommends taking all necessary personal precautions against infection.
- NECC is a Mask Flexible Campus. We encourage mask wearing while indoors. Be mindful of those around you and their comfort level. Keep a mask in your pocket just in case!
- Based on updated CDC guidance, if you are a close contact of a COVID+ individual, you are required to wear a mask on campus.
- If you have been exposed, are not feeling well, or have tested positive for COVID-19, we request that you not attend the live meetings on campus.

## **Board Meetings**

Until further notice, all board meetings are virtual on Zoom. They are scheduled in advance on the first Wednesday of the month, starting at 6:30 pm. The dates are listed on the MVQ website under “Calendar of Events”. All members are welcome to attend by contacting Lynette Pisani at least 2 days before the meeting and request an invitation.

All Committee Chairpersons are expected to attend the Board Meeting. Please make note that the next Zoom Board Meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2024 at 6:30 PM. I will send the Zoom link the day of the meeting.



**All are Welcome!**

## **MERRIMAC VALLEY QUILTERS**

### **'UFO AUCTION'**

**FEBRUARY 15, 2024**

**DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM**

**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!**



**Silent Auction  
Live Auction**

Northern Essex Community College  
Conference Room 103B in the Technology Building  
100 Elliot Street, Haverhill MA

**ACCEPTING CASH OR CHECKS ONLY**

## **UFO AUCTION IS FEBRUARY 15, 2024**

**\*\*\*DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED\*\*\***

### **HOW TO DONATE:**

- Contact us (see below) for pick up.

### **HOW TO VOLUNTEER:**

#### **SIGN UP SHEETS WILL BE OUT ON SIGN-UP GENIUS**

- Sorting and stacking the Truck will take place Wednesday before the meeting, February 14th at First Church of Christ 10 Church St. Bradford, MA from 9:00 am to 12:00.

- Auction set up at NECC will start at 4:15 PM, prior to our meeting.

Please take this opportunity to recycle your stash and make room for new projects! And, if you know any non-member quilters that would like to make fabric donations (perhaps they are moving?), please mention our auction to them. We are available to meet people and/or come to your homes for pickups.

We would like donations of quilting cotton fabric, unfinished quilt projects, quilting supplies, embroidery, knotting, vintage sewing items and quilting books newer than 2015 (no magazines please) and any other items you think would be of interest to your fellow quilters.

Thank you in advance for your contribution to another successful auction!

Stacey Caruso and Sue Spinelli

Contact Info:

Susan@Spinelli.us / 978-869-3632

[Staccaru@gmail.com](mailto:Staccaru@gmail.com) / 978-914-3907

## **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

This is it! Our next meeting is the always fun, always profitable **UFO Auction!** The auction and our quilt show are the guild's two major fundraisers, so I encourage you to bid early and bid often!

- Be sure to pick up your paper plate bidding paddle when you check in. Use the back to make notes of any lots you're interested in or have bid on.
- Bring your cash and checkbook - these are the only payment methods accepted.
- There is no guest fee this month so invite all your friends to come!
- Arrive as close to 6:00 as you can to allow enough time to view all the auction items. The Silent Auction will close at 7:30 and the Live Auction will begin shortly after that.
- Thank you, thank you, thank you to all those who signed up to help with this fun and important fundraiser.

Because the auction is so time-consuming, we need to eliminate a few things we normally do at our meetings. There will be no Sew and Know before the meeting – use this time to look over both the Silent and Live Auction lots. We will also not be awarding any door prizes (but please still wear your nametag). Lastly, there will be no Show and Tell – save your quilts for our March meeting.

I recently reissued the Photo Roster and Member List which include all our new members. These are important documents for helping us to get to know each other better. Print them to keep with your meeting materials and/or download them to your phone for easy reference. If you want a paper copy and can't print, let me know and I will do it for you. It would be too expensive in paper and ink to do it for everyone.

Linda Lydecker, Membership Chair

## **RAFFLE QUILT BLOCKS**

Please bring any finished or unfinished raffle quilt blocks to Ann or Mary Stobbs at the February Quilt Group meeting.

The work group to assemble the raffle quilt still has to be determined.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Lots of fun expected! Come join us and signup where applicable

1. **February 15<sup>th</sup>**: UFO Auction
2. **March 21<sup>st</sup>**: Lecture “Intentional Piecing: Using Fussy Cutting in Quilt Designs” Guest Speaker – [Amy Friend](#)
3. **March 23<sup>rd</sup>**: Workshop “Round Robin” ruler work Teacher – [Adele Scott](#)
4. The cost of workshops has changed from \$35.00 TO \$37.00 starting in January.
5. For more information about upcoming workshops and lectures, you can follow this path on the website: [Lecture Schedule/ Workshop Schedule](#)  
[« Merrimack Valley Quilters \(mvquilters.org\)](#)

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NEQE APRIL 11-13, 2024**

The 2024 Raffle Quilt will be making its debut on the road in April for NEQE (New England Quilt Expo) in Manchester, New Hampshire. Please help us make this event a success by volunteering to sit with the Quilt or helping to fulfill MVQ's volunteer commitment to the event. The Guild is required to give 8 hours of service to NEQE admissions to receive our free table.

**We need many hands to make this event a success!**

**And as an added benefit, the Guild will be providing all volunteers with a free ticket to the show! You will need to sign up early in order to receive your ticket before the event.**

Sign up to staff the Raffle Quilt Table via Sign Up Genius using this link:  
**[Merrimack Valley Quilters: MVQ Volunteer Sign Up for NEQE: Raffle Quilt Table -sell tickets and provide information \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)**

The Guild will need to provide NEQE with 8 volunteer hours at the Exhibition Hall entrance. We will need four volunteers as door monitors for 2 hours each to fulfill our commitment to NEQE. To sign up, you will need to use the link to NEQE volunteers directly. The slots open to guilds are noted and please be sure to designate "Merrimack Valley Quilters Guild" in your sign-up. The link is: **<https://signup.com/go/MUHwmDK>**

**Please also e-mail Gail Forthoffer (gforth@comcast.net) so that we can ensure we are meeting our commitment prior to the event.**



# Marathon Quilters Guild

Hopkinton, Massachusetts

## Marathon Quilters

Presents

**FRACTURED QUILTS** by Colleen Manning Barnes

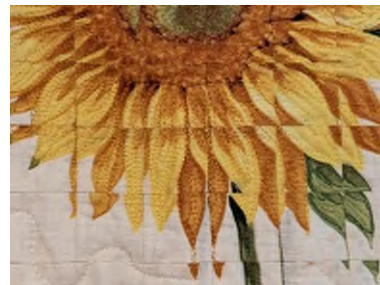


**February 13, 2024, 7:00 p.m.**

Faith Community Church in  
Hopkinton, MA  
Room...

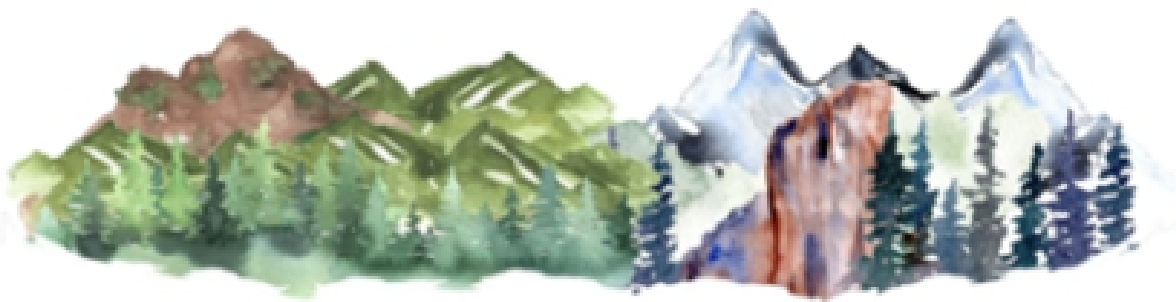
Please join Marathon Quilters and  
Colleen Manning Barnes  
for a talk on fractured quilts.  
Including how to make a fracture  
and many examples.

Based on Brenda Esslinger's books  
*Fabulous Fractures* and *Fracture  
Frenzy*.



Please check the Marathon Quilters website for weather updates: <https://marathonquilters.com>  
Email: [colleenmbarnes@outlook.com](mailto:colleenmbarnes@outlook.com)





# MVQ Quilting Retreat

Info & Updates

February, 2024

Hi everyone!

Our retreats for 2024 have been booked. They will be held at The Valley Inn in Waterville Valley, NH.

The Spring Retreat dates are May 16-19.  
The Fall Retreat dates are November 7-10.

We do not have an updated price list and registration is not open yet, but we will keep you posted!

If you have any questions, feel free to email me.

Phyllis

Phyllis Lauria

PMLAURIA17@GMAIL.COM



February, 2024

Hi everyone!

This is a friendly reminder that I am the Sunshine Chairperson for the guild. I have appreciated that people have been letting me know of people who are in need of cheer!

The Board has approved the updated Sunshine guidelines and that information is on the MVQ website, under Committees, then Sunshine Guidelines.

Please let me know if you know of anyone in the guild that needs some sunshine.

You can text or call (978-609-1050) or email ([pmlauria17@gmail.com](mailto:pmlauria17@gmail.com)).

Phyllis

PHYLLIS LAURIA  
[PMLAURIA17@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PMLAURIA17@GMAIL.COM)



# **GUILD MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 2024**

**Date:** January 18, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

## **President's Remarks – Lynne Pisani**

Lynne welcomed everyone to the meeting. There is a very full agenda, and she is excited to hear the journeys.

## **Elianna Urena from Lazarus House**

Elianna provided an overview of the Lazarus House ministries. It is a faith-based program that has been serving people who are struggling with food, housing and clothing insecurities since 1981. The program operates a soup kitchen, shelter, thrift store and transitional housing. The transitional housing consists of 20 furnished apartments. Each apartment is supplied with a welcome basket which includes several basic items to help the family during the initial time there.

Lazarus House is looking for quilts for the 20 winter program cots which are approximately a twin size. They would like quilts for the 20 transitional housing units. The sizes for these units would range from crib, toddler, twin, and full-size beds.

## **Secretary's Report - Wendy Ward**

The December meeting minutes were approved as circulated.

## **Treasurers' Reports – Liz Swan AR and Diane Kelley AP**

Nothing to report at this time.

## **Membership - Linda Lydecker**

There were 4 new members to introduce: Fran, Eliza, Carol and Diane.

Liz provided a new member over at the sew and know session.

If you have anything you want to demonstrate during a sew and know session, please reach out to Janice.

6 guests: Pamela, Maureen, Pat, Sandy, Susan C., Susan B.

Name badge and door prizes were won by Zina Runkle, Pat Doherty, Georgia Cameron.

## **Open Positions**

*President* – our 501c3 status requires us to have a president in order for the guild to continue.

*Quilt show chair* – important position

A lot already in place, many sub committee chairs will be returning

Need someone to do ads and vendors

**Please see Lynne if you are interested.**

*Travel raffle chair* – need chair to organize the volunteers and help set up/break down.

Quilt for 2024 is already done. Quilt for 2025 is already being creating.

## **UFO Auction - Sue Spinelli**

If anyone has donations to turn in tonight, Sue will meet you in the parking lot to transfer them to her car. The donations are taken to the church on Wednesday before the auction to be sorted. Then help is needed that night to set up and clean up.

No guest fee that night.

## **NEQE Manchester in April – Gail Forthofffer**

The exhibit will be held April 11-13, 2024. Quilts can be entered for a fee of \$20.00 per quilt. There will be a special exhibit for children 16 and under and the entry fee is free. More information can be found on the NEQE website. The BNP website will link you over to the NEQE site as well.

If the guild would like to have a table at sell raffle tickets, we will need 4 members to volunteer for a 2 hour slot to sit at the entry way or white glove. The guild will pay the admission fee for the volunteers. The admission fee is \$20.00. There is a fee for parking. Please contact Gail, Lynne or Liz with any questions.

## **Programs – Terry Taylor and Pat Johnson**

Workshops have been set up for March, April and May. The information is listed on the website and registration is open.

March - Adele Scott – ruler workshop

April - Sue Michael - not your grandmothers 9 patch

May – Debbie Wendt – twirl a tool

A thank you note was received from the Holiday Helper program for the gift cards and socks donated at the holiday party.

### **Raffle Quilt – Mary and Ann Stobbs**

Mary and Ann are busy working hard on the assembling the raffle quilt. The unveiling will be at the September show.

### **Other Business**

There was no other business to discuss.

### **Show and Tell**

Many members shared their beautiful creations.

Fabric Raffle was won by Bev Bell Lavoie.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

### **Journeys**

Beth Bell Lavoie, Carol Sullivan and Nancy Scarfo shared their quilting journeys.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Ward, Secretary.



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Merrimac, MA 01860**

Wednesday – Saturday 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Follow I-495 to exit 111. Take Rt. 110 east and go 2.3 miles. We're on the right.

