



Village Squares Quilters Newsletter

January 2023

A MESSAGE FROM VSQ PRESIDENT DONNA GREENE

Hi everyone,

Relax a moment from the hectic pace of the holidays – but get your sewing mojo on as we have a lot going on with VSQ in January. Mark your calendars now!

JANUARY MEETINGS

- **Tuesday, Jan: 10:** Due to concerns about January weather -- and as previously

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Location: Zoom

Program: Tammy Silvers

Schedule:

10:00 a.m.	Board Meeting
11:00 a.m.	“Doors” Open
11:30 a.m.	VSQ Meeting
12:30 p.m.	Program

announced -- the scheduled Jan. 10 meeting with a speaker will be held **via Zoom, not in person**. I will distribute Zoom links *the week before*. We will be hosting Tammy Silvers. (See elsewhere in this newsletter for a description of her presentation.) You will be able to sign on any time after 11 a.m. for informal socializing. Her presentation will begin at 12:30 p.m. There will be a board meeting via Zoom at 10 a.m.

- **Tuesday, Jan. 17:** We have been able to secure WRT for an **extra** informal sewing January meeting **weather permitting**. This will have two components: using our members’ Accuquilt cutting machines and dies to cut patterns of your choice and a handbag workshop. (See elsewhere in this newsletter for fuller descriptions of how these will work and *what you should do in advance*.)

RAFFLE QUILT

Ticket sales have begun. For those of you who have not yet picked up your tickets, here are the options:

- We can mail you your 5 booklets.
- You can pick up the booklets at my house in Greenburgh or Alice Clague’s in Sleepy Hollow.
- You can send a \$25 check for your tickets directly to Mary Anne Byrnes and we will write up the ticket stubs in your name.
- You can pick up at a later meeting.

The experimental plan to sell digital raffle tickets **in addition to the paper tickets** is proceeding. I hope to have this in place by February and will keep you posted. Under this arrangement, you and our designated beneficiary of raffle proceeds (as well as any other group we have connections with) will be able to circulate a link to people via social media and emails. People will be able to click and buy tickets with a credit card. There is no financial risk to VSQ.

FEBRUARY 14 MEETING

Feb.14 will be Members Teaching Members in person. For our new members, the way this works is that 4 or 5 members teach/demonstrate a skill. Our members are divided into groups and rotate around to the offerings. **If you would like to give a brief demonstration, please let me know.**

MARCH 14 MEETING

March 14 will be charity sewing -- weather permitting in person. If you have thoughts on a particular project we might tackle, please see Maria Eyckmans, who is our outreach coordinator.

HOPE TO SEE YOU VIA ZOOM JAN. 10 AND IN PERSON JAN. 17.

Donna

A GENTLE REMINDER – ZOOM MEETING ETIQUETTE

From the editor:

As we are returning to using Zoom for January's meeting, here's a reminder regarding *Zoom meeting etiquette*:

Please, please, please - **mute your microphone unless you are about to speak / are speaking.**

This will ensure that you do NOT “cut-off mid-sentence / screen bomb” the current speaker when you (or someone near you) inadvertently makes some noise (e.g., cough, move about in your chair, doorbell rings, etc.) Refer to the *Summer Newsletter 2020* and *September Newsletter 2020* issues of our newsletter for further information. Both available via the secure area on our website. (Email Pat Julian if you've forgotten how to get to the secure area.)

A guideline for our Zoom meetings: The first half hour of our Zoom meeting, i.e., 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., is the time for chit-chat. Once the general meeting commences (at around 11:30 a.m.), please ensure that you “**mute your mic.**”

To “**mute your mic:**” click on the microphone icon, (it's in the bottom left of the screen on my desktop computer; it may be located elsewhere on a tablet, cell phone, or whatever device you are using). Only unmute (re-click) when you need to speak / are speaking. Remember - a Zoom meeting is not the same as meeting “in person” because the whole group can only listen to one person at a time. So please remember that everyone has to talk one at a time.

CALENDAR – UPCOMING VSQ MEETINGS

An update from the Editor

2023:

- Jan. 10: Zoom lecture with Tammy Silvers <https://www.tamarinis.com/>
- Jan 17: Informal sewing day at WRT.
- Feb. 14: Members teaching members (in person weather permitting)
- Mar. 14: Charity quilting (in person weather permitting)
- Apr.11: In person lecture
- May 9: In person lecture
- June 13: Annual luncheon, no speaker

JANUARY'S PROGRAM – January 10, 2023 Zoom

Provided by: Tammy Silvers

Tammy Silvers (www.tamarinis.com) will be our featured speaker in January.

ABOUT TAMMY SILVERS

Hi, I'm Tammy. I've been quilting since 1991. I've also taught at a variety of quilt shops as well as online and design and self-publish my own quilt patterns under the label Tamarinis. I'm no different than most quilters -- I enjoy working with almost any fabric. But I must confess -- my favorites (the ones that will make me drool, and blow a carefully constructed budget) are batiks, bold prints, and almost any fabric with words on it.

Having a background in art and literature, another of my guilty quilty pleasures is finding ways to use "words" in my work, be it in the fabric itself or by adding them to the piece.

Under the label Tamarinis, my designs are regularly published in a variety of quilt magazines. I also work with some of the major fabric manufacturers designing projects to showcase and promote their fabric lines, including Northcott, Free Spirit, Maywood, Dear Stella and Timeless Treasures. I even design fabrics for Island Batik. A perfect fit - since I LOVE batiks! I'm fortunate to have a thread line with Aurifil that coordinates beautifully with my current Island Batik line too!

As a Certified Studio 180 instructor, I am thrilled to be able to share how Studio 180 tools make your piecing easier and more accurate! Win win!

Yes, I love designing, but I love teaching and sharing my passion for quilting. It is so much fun to get to visit different guilds, meet quilters and see all the creativity that makes this such a funworld to be a part of.

I am a Georgia native and currently live in Acworth with my husband, children (when they come to visit!), one fluffy dog, and my favorite grumpy cat.

ABOUT THE LECTURE

Seeing Double:

Ever wonder what would this quilt look like if I made it in another color way? If I used plaids and stripes instead of florals? Well, I can't tell you what EVERY quilt would look like, but we can explore some practical examples together! In a fun format, we will compare quilts made in florals versus batiks, reproduction fabrics versus crisp modern prints, brights versus pastels. Gather inspiration and insight into the choices for your next project!

PLANS FOR JAN. 17 "IN PERSON"

Provided by: Donna Greene

This is an add-on meeting, since we have a guest speaker via Zoom on Jan. 10. We have two "activities" planned, which you can read about below. But if you have no interest in either, you can still come to socialize, hand sew or work on any project you want.

ACQUILT PLAN FOR JAN. 17

Several of us will be bringing our Accuquilt cutting machines to the meeting for you to use to cut what you want from the dies we will have on hand. There will be several options, ranging from half-square triangles, flying geese to Hunters Star to some applique shapes. For ideas, go to <https://www.accuquilt.com/>

- **If you have a cutting machine and can bring it, let me know.** We can chat about what dies you might bring. (Don't bring your entire collection – **and make sure your name is on EVERYTHING.**)
- **If you hope to use a cutting machine, let me know in advance as well.** We can try to work out an orderly schedule. Here is what I suggest you bring fabric wise:
 - Bring two yards each of 2 fabrics that you like together **or**
 - 1.5 yards of 3 fabrics (light, medium, dark) that you like together
- Someone should bring an iron.
- If after cutting you want to sew, then of course bring your machine and other sewing supplies.

Here is an example of a Hunter Star cut on an Accuquilt and made with 2 colors.



HANDBAG WORKSHOP FOR JAN. 17

I will be running a small in person handbag workshop. Maria and Diane, who asked me to do this, have selected [Blazingstar Bag - Sew Sweetness](#) as the pattern. If you want to participate **please let me know ASAP** as I want to limit the number of participants. Here is how it will work:

In advance of Jan. 17

- Participants should buy and download the pdf pattern <https://sewsweetness.com/products/blazingstar-bag>. It is up to you whether to also buy the accompanying video. I find the videos very helpful.
- You should print, assemble and cut out the pattern pieces. Optional whether you want to print out the instructions to the pattern, as you can keep it on your iPad or other device.
- You should gather your materials (see below for supply list).
 - The fabric can be quilting cottons, but does **not** have to be. You can use upholstery, cork, vinyl, etc.
 - There are numerous online places to buy the hardware, as well as of course Joann's.
 - I can advise you further about the zippers. I recommend the wider handbag zippers that the pattern suggests. These are either **labeled 4.5 or 5**. Zipper by the rolls is a good option. If you go that route, do not cut to size in advance.

- You should attach (as directed in the pattern instructions) all stabilizers/interfaces. **(Pellon Sf-101 is an iron on. FYI while you can buy foam interfacing that is one or even two-sided fusible, I always buy the sew in.)**
- You should label all pieces. (Just use a pin and a piece of paper.)
- **You can call me with questions** or we can see if we can Zoom together in advance of Jan. 17.

At Jan. 17 meeting

It is important that you do the steps listed above **in advance** so we can complete (or come near completing) the handbag at the workshop.

- You bring your machine and sewing supplies and we begin to assemble bag.
- We will need an iron as well.

Supplies Needed to Make This Bag

- 1 yard of exterior fabric
- 1 yard of lining fabric
- 1/3 yard of foam interfacing (By Annie's Soft and Stable, Pellon Flex Foam, Bosal In-R-Form, or automotive headliner; if using Flex Foam, it is only 20" wide so please purchase 1-1/2 yard)
- 3 yards 20" wide Pellon SF-101 Shape Flex fusible woven interfacing (or med-weight fusible interfacing)
- 24" handbag zipper for front pocket (This can be a double zipper, but does not have to be.)
- Four 12" handbag zippers (if using zipper by the yard, wait to cut the zippers until directed to in the pattern)
- Two 1" metal rectangles
- 1" metal slider
- 8" x 5" piece of mesh

A FEW REMINDERS:

Food restrictions at WRT – no pork products, no shell fish and no nuts.

Should there be any last-minute changes to the meeting location, VSQ will contact you via email (for those with email) or phone (all others) as per VSQ's snow emergency procedures. So, please check email (or voicemail) before leaving home for the meeting.

AND.....Please wear your name tag.

SCRAPPY BLOCKS OF THE MONTH

Coordinated by Susan Wolman with Janice Ewing:

As a reminder, see below for a full listing of “colors by month.”

Each month we are suggesting **2 blocks**, each block with a single color. Of course, you may add any colors that help beautify the block, but the goal is to highlight that month’s individual colors.



Month 1 (Nov)	Teal / Aqua	Gold
Month 2 (Dec)	Orange	Lime green
Month 3 (Jan)	Sky blue	Magenta/fuchsia
Month 4 (Feb)	Purple	Brown
Month 5	Grey	Maroon
Month 6	Pink	Tomato red
Month 7	Forest green	Lavender
Month 8	Yellow	Deep/dark red
Month 9	Navy	Salmon
Month 10	Your choice	Your choice

This listing provides a quilt of 20 blocks, as was done by our presenter. (See pic above)

Questions? Chat with Susan and / or Janice at the January meetings (Zoom and / or in person).

OUTREACH

From Maria Eyckmans

Hello everyone.

From the editor.....catching up on the missing November quilt donations plus acknowledging the December donations. Thank you all.

Thank you to the following members for their quilt donations at the November meeting:

Jean Borsellino - 1 baby quilt for Pins and Needles
Jean Borsellino - 1 adult quilt for Hearts to Home
Pat Julian - 2 baby quilts for Pins and Needles
Lisa Moore - 1 adult quilt for Pins and Needles
Lisa Moore - 1 toddler quilt for Pins and Needles
Jean Powers - 1 baby quilt for Pins and Needles

Note: The above quilts donated to Pins and Needles were included in the 24 quilts that Lee delivered to them in December.

Thank you to the following members for their quilt donations at the December meeting:

Candace Abraham - 1 afghan for Project Linus

Ida Pucino - 1 quilt for Pins and Needles

Jean Borsellino, Diane Coldrick, Maria Eyckmans, Rose Fox, Lee Kimmel, and Nancy Pruyne group project - 1 quilt for Project Linus.

 Current Outreach Sites, corresponding VSQ Contact and recommended donations are listed below:

OUTREACH SITES	VSQ CONTACT	RECOMMENDED DONATIONS / QUILT SIZES
Coming Home Project	Barbara Wexler	45" x 60"
Furniture Sharehouse	Susan Wolman	60" x 80"
Hearts to Home	Susan Wolman	36"x 36", 40" x 50", or 40" x 60"
Marymount	Georgina Correa	Wheelchair bags Lap quilt 50" x 65"
Phelps Hospital		42" x 60"
Pins and Needles (for their annual donation to Blythedale and Beacon Health)	Lee Kimmel	Children's crib size (36" x 45")
Project Linus	Janice Ewing	45" x 60" or 60" x 80" Will also accept other sizes.
VA, Montrose	Rhona Hiney	42" x 60"
White Plains Hospital	Rhona Hiney	40" x 46"

**If you are donating your quilt or wheel chair bag to any of the above sites, please log it in the green log book on the attendance table and give it to the member whose name appears above next to that site for delivery.

Remember – if you are not at the meeting and you donate a quilt or quilts and / or wheelchair bags, please e-mail Maria with the details. This way, our count of Outreach donations can be kept current / up-to-date.

BATTING AND LABELS:

Full and Queen size batting is available to members for charity quilts. It is being stored at my house. You can contact me at meyckmans@aol.com if you would like to pick some up.

Janet Bozzone also keeps a few packages in the trunk of her car. You can speak to her at our meetings if you need batting.

Quilt labels are available at the meetings. Check with Donna Greene or Maria Eyckmans if you need one.

Laurie Quadagno-Lagronegro has volunteered to help us with the quilting of our charity quilts. Contact Laurie at: laurieg@earthlink.net

QUILT SHOWS, EXHIBITS OF INTEREST (and other miscellaneous quilting-related info):

February 23 – 26, 2023: Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival at the Hampton Roads Convention Center. This is a Mancuso Show Management festival and billed as “The LARGEST QUILT FESTIVAL on the Eastern Seaboard.” The Merchants Mall will feature everything for quilt, fiber, wearable, textile artists, and home sewers. In addition, MAQF will present the finest collection of quilt, garment, and fiber art exhibitions including quilt and wearable art prize money competitions. Rounding out the event will be workshops and lectures presented by leading instructors along with demonstrations throughout the Merchants Mall.

For more info: www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/mid-atlantic-quilt-festival

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