



Village Squares Quilters Newsletter

January 2024

MESSAGE FROM VSQ PRESIDENT JANET BOZZONE

Greetings:

A very, very warm New Year's greeting to everyone. I hope everyone has had a wonderful holiday season and is looking forward to what 2024 will bring. I hope some of your resolutions will include sewing more and stressing less. Personally, I plan on making a commitment to whittling down my pile of UFOs (UnFinished Objects). Let's see how that goes.

As we did last year, our January meeting will be held via Zoom, so we can avoid wintry weather and make commuting less risky. Although this year has been unseasonably mild, one additional benefit is that some of our snow-birders can attend remotely.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Location: Zoom

Schedule:

10:30 a.m. Board Meeting via Zoom
11:00 a.m. Zoom doors open for membership, chatting, etc.
11:30 a.m. VSQ meeting
Noon Speaker – Thomas Knauer
Followed by Q&A with speaker.

So, mark your calendars for Tuesday, Jan. 9. The board will meet for a brief meeting at 10:30 a.m., with the doors opening for our informal virtual gathering of the general membership at 11 a.m. The business meeting will be called to order at 11:30 a.m. At 12 noon, our speaker, Thomas Knauer, will be talking about quilts from his newest book, "*Quilt Out Loud*." The lecture will examine what it means to put text on quilts, using quilts for activism, and the history and implications of making text-based quilts. Donna will send the Zoom link a week prior to our meeting.

Remember that our February meeting will also be held via Zoom on Feb. 13 and feature Brita Nelson's presentation, "*Now You See It, Now You Don't. The Magic of Disappearing Blocks*." I know you will not want to miss it!

Please save all of your "Show and Tell" masterpieces for our Charity Quilting Day on Mar. 12. We will also feature a sale of our fabrics on bolts, so remember to bring some extra cash that day.

May this new year bring us happiness and health. I'm looking forward to "seeing" you all on Jan. 9.

Until then, I'll be trying to keep VSQ in stitches,
J Bo

IN MEMORIAM

Patricia Waill, 95.

Long time VSQ member Patricia (Pat) Waill passed away the last week of December due to complications from COVID. Those of us who knew Pat were in absolute awe of her quilts – especially her hand appliqué, her hand-quilting, and her overall design-sense. Pat, together with five other VSQ members, was a founding member of the VSQ Dear Jane Group that was formed in 2007. Pat made her DJ entirely by hand....and was finished before those of us who used a mix of hand work and machine work! At Pat's funeral service, her children - daughter, Linda, and son, David - both made mention of how much Pat enjoyed quilting and the get-togethers with her quilting friends. We will miss her insights, her helpful hints and general positive outlook on life.

Pat Julian, Newsletter Editor



JANUARY'S PROGRAM

Provided by: Thomas Knauer

Thomas Knauer will be our featured speaker at the January meeting.

ABOUT THOMAS KNAUER:

Thomas Knauer lives in a small village in upstate New York with his wife, two children, and a dragon. He spends much of his time exploring the minutiae of letters and numbers, words and sentences. He loves words in just about any form, from letterpress printing to multimedia development. So, it is no surprise that his work has taken a turn down the path of text-based quilts. He began his professional life teaching design at Drake University before turning to quilting. He has designed fabrics for several leading manufacturers, and his work has been exhibited in quilt shows and museums across the country, including the International Quilt Museum, San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles, and the Quilt Festival in Houston. His work typically focuses on issues of social justice and violence; his most recent body of work deals with the recent police shootings of unarmed African Americans. Knauer has authored several books prior to *Quilt Out Loud* and plans to keep writing as long as people will let him.



ABOUT HIS LECTURE: *Letters, Numbers, Words, and Sentences*

This talk will explore some of the implications and possibilities of placing text on quilts. From historical precedents to contemporary practices this talk will examine what it means to speak/write through the medium of quilt making and how words on quilts create voices unique to quilting, distinct from other more typical materials.

CALENDAR – UPCOMING VSQ MEETINGS

An update from the VSQ Website:

2024:

- Jan. 9: Via Zoom: Thomas Knauer: The lecture looks at what it means to put text on quilts, using quilts as a means to activism, and the history of and implications of making text-based quilts.
- Feb. 13: Via Zoom: Brita Nelson: “*Now You See It, Now You Don’t. The Magic of Disappearing Blocks.*”
- Mar. 12: In-person: Charity quilting and bolt fabric sale.
- Apr. 9: In-person: Members Teaching Members.
- May 14: In-person: Jennifer Strauser: “*Kawandi Style Quilting.*”
- June 11: In-person: Annual Luncheon and possible sewing items tag sale.
-

AFRICAN FABRIC CHALLENGE

From the Editor

At our December meeting, Lisa Moore, the coordinator of this challenge, announced that since the VSQ meeting on the original completion date – February, Black History Month – will be via Zoom; the new completion date will be March, 2024 when we will be back meeting in-person. So, there’s still time to participate / join this challenge!

As a reminder: The project can be anything you want (e.g., a wall-hanging, crib quilt, jacket, etc.); there are only two “rules” - just use some African print fabric and have the project completed by March, 2024.

JUST SEW STORIES

An update from the Editor

This “occasional” section is used to display bio’s submitted by new members, plus any other pertinent stories from our members.

Please welcome new member, **Carol Ann Williams**. In her own words:

Carol Ann Williams: I have never sewed anything in my life but my Mom / sisters were good dressmakers, so I was familiar with the operation of a sewing machine in my early days. In my first meeting yesterday (*December meeting*) with VSQ, memories of sewing came back, and Jean (*Borsellino*) taught and gave me so much info, that I feel quite ready to tackle small quilting projects to donate and to enjoy. Also, I saw so many beautiful creative works at the meeting that I feel truly inspired to begin my quilting journey in the company of a great group of women. I currently reside in New Rochelle and recently retired from Pfizer Inc. after 33 years.

A request from **Barbara Glab**: I am looking for JAN/FEB 2018 issue of LOVE OF QUILTING. There is a quilt that I would like to make. I am happy just to borrow the magazine for a short period; then return it.

SEWING CLASS FOR MIGRANT WOMEN – A progress report

Submitted by Doris Capello:

Glad Tidings for Mujeres en Accion



December was a very busy month for the migrant women at Catholic Charities. They were busy making Christmas napkins (many to be sold or gifted to friends and family), selecting, designing, and sewing a lap size quilt using Christmas fabrics. At our last class for the year the women expressed many sentiments about their experience with the class.

As a group they all shared:

- how grateful they were to Susan Wolman and her assistants for all the things they learned this year, the patience the teachers had while explaining the many techniques of sewing and quilting.
- the opportunity they had to learn new skills at no cost. Many of them had a desire to take a class like this but did not have the financial resources to do so.
- the generosity of the VSQ members in donating so much fabric and the materials necessary to complete their projects.
- the opportunity to learn a new skill was repeated often.

At the end of class, we were gifted with flowers and dishes native to their particular countries – tacos with cheese and a spicy sauce, a rice with milk drink that was sweet and delicious, a fruit gelatin, cookies and much more.

We are looking forward to continuing this project next year. We want to thank all the VSQ members who donated so generously from their stash - sewing machines, fabric, pins/needles, thread, ironing mats, irons, rulers etc.

VSQ Coordinators: Peggy Altman, Doris Capello, Debbie Johnston, and Susan Wolman.

OUTREACH

From Maria Eyckmans

Hello everyone:

Thank you to the following members for their contributions to outreach at the December 2023 meeting:

Janice Ewing - 7 quilts for Project Linus
Donna Greene - 1 quilt for Furniture Sharehouse
Rona Hiney - 2 bed runners for the VA
Rona Hiney - 15 wheelchair bags for the VA
Lisa Moore - 1 quilt for Project Linus
Jeri Serota - 1 lap quilt for the VA

In addition, Lee Kimmel delivered 20+ member-made quilts to Pins & Needles in support of its Holiday Drive for donations to Blythedale and Beacon Health.

Wishing everyone all the best for 2024.....with lots of quilting!

Maria

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

OUTREACH SITES	VSQ CONTACT	RECOMMENDED DONATIONS / QUILT SIZES
Marymount Convent	Georgina Correa	Wheelchair bags*, Lap quilts (50" x 65")
Montrose VA	Rhona Hiney	Wheelchair bags*, Lap quilts (42" x 60"), Bed runners (30" x 60"; Charm packs work well)
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 Susan Wolman	All sizes accepted.
White Plains Hospital (NICU)	Rhona Hiney	Baby quilt sizes (40" x 46")

*Instructions for making wheelchair bags are available of the VSQ website.

NOTE: If you are donating your quilt or wheelchair 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. Similarly, please log all donations to other sites, including site name.

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.

Help keep our list of Outreach Sites current: If you have an organization that you coordinate (or would like to coordinate) for quilt donations, please let Maria know.

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.

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

May 4 – 5, 2024: “World of Quilts - A Celebration of Traditional, Modern and Art Quilts.” Quilts, vendors, speaker (Irene Roderick), and more - presented by Northern Star Quilters. Location: Purchase College Gymnasium, 735 Anderson Hill Rd, Purchase NY. For more info: www.northernstarquilters.com.

From The Yankee Quilter (www.yankeequilter.com).

Upcoming Shop Hops!



Save the Date - April 12 - 20, 2024

Superbowl Shop Hop SAVE THE DATE

February 10-11, 2024. Join 3 great quilt shops for a fun weekend shop hop. Stay Tuned for more details.

Quilt Across CT Shop Hop SAVE THE DATE

April 12-20, 2024!

5 Fabulous Quilt Shops who are going to spend lots of time teaching you some great techniques!


Support Our Advertisers

BERNINA Sewing Machines
BERNINA Accessories
Fabrics, Notions
Sewing Machine Repair

128 Radio Circle Drive
Mount Kisco, NY 10549

Phone: 914-666-0824

info@pinsandneedlesny.com
www.pinsandneedlesny.com



PINS AND NEEDLES

SEWING MACHINES ETC.
SALES / AUTHORIZED SERVICE
THANK YOU FOR 49 YEARS SUPPORT

DOMESTIC & INDUSTRIAL MACHINES
6 N CENTRAL AVE, HARTSDALE, NY
914-682-0595

MR. MITCHELL



Above and Beyond
Creative Sewing



Transform your sewing room!
Come in and see how, or scan the QR code.

38 N Middletown Rd, Nanuet, NY
845-623-4313 creativesewingshops.com

**Angie's Longarm
Quilting Services**



For Professional Quilting
Tel # 845-878-7289
abv1053@comcast.net
Call Angie's

Address
Follow GPS To
3 pleasantView Ct,
Patterson, NY. 12563