



Village Squares Quilters Newsletter

February 2022

From the Editor: Please note the time changes (just for this month) for the Feb. 8 agenda items. Read on....

A MESSAGE FROM VSQ PRESIDENT DONNA GREENE

Hello everyone,

Wow, it was cold on the day of our last meeting. While we were disappointed that COVID prevented an in-person meeting, it was a pleasure to stay at home, sew charity quilts and Zoom that day instead of going to WRT – and having to eat outside. Our Members-Teaching-Members event that was to have taken place in January has been rescheduled for April.

Our upcoming meeting, **Tuesday, Feb. 8**, will also be on Zoom. But this is pre-planned due to winter, not due to COVID. Our guest presenter will be Brenda Gael Smith, an Australian quilter who will get up very early to meet with us.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Location: Zoom Meeting

Program: Brenda Gael Smith

Schedule: 11:00 a.m. Board Meeting
12:00 noon "Doors" open
01:00 p.m. VSQ Meeting
Followed by Show'n'Tell
02:00 pm Program

To help her a tiny bit, we will have her presentation begin at about 2 p.m., instead of our usual 1 p.m. for programs. (Zoom doors will open about 12 noon for socializing and guild business.) See elsewhere in this newsletter for details about Brenda and her program. <https://www.brendagaelsmith.com/>

Send me photos for Show'n'Tell by end of day, Sunday, Feb. 6. Also, feel free to invite a sewing friend to attend as our guest. Just let me know.

As of this writing, it is unclear when Westchester Reform Temple will reopen to visitors (and when they will let us eat inside!). *As of this writing*, our March 8 meeting is scheduled to be in person.

But here is some Guild news: We have scheduled an additional VSQ Zoom meeting for Wednesday, March 30 for a presentation to begin at 7 p.m. This evening time slot is a **one-time experiment**, since some of you have indicated to me that you can't make daytime meetings. The speaker will be Kelly Ashton. <https://kellyquilter.com/virtual/>

SUMMARY OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Tuesday, March 8:** our speaker will be (fingers crossed in person) Sheri Cifaldi-Morrill. <https://www.wholecirclestudio.com/>
- **Wednesday, March 30:** evening Zoom with Kelly Aston
- **Tuesday, April 12:** Our rescheduled Members-Teaching-Members.

On a different matter – recycling – did you know the county’s H-MRF now will take textiles, irrespective of their condition? I am assuming this includes scraps. Most Westchester residents can use the Household Materials Recycling Facility in Valhalla free of charge. But you must make an appointment. <https://environment.westchestergov.com/facilities/h-mrf>

I hope to see you on Feb. 8 on Zoom.

Donna

From the Editor: A little extra information: Our speaker this month, Brenda Gael Smith, will be speaking via Zoom from New South Wales, Australia. More details regarding the program follow. However, FYI, AEDT (Australian Eastern Daylight Time) is 16 hours ahead of USEST (US Eastern Standard Time); i.e., at 02:00 pm Tuesday, Feb. 8 here in NY, it will be 06:00 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9 in New South Wales!

FEBRUARY’S PROGRAM

Provided by Brenda Gael Smith

Our speaker for our Zoom meeting on Feb. 8 will be **Brenda Gael Smith** on the topic of *Quilts & Composition*.

About Brenda Gael Smith:



Brenda lives and creates at the “other” Copacabana in Australia. As an artist, teacher, independent curator, exhibition organiser and judge, Brenda has closely reviewed thousands of quilts. She shares her insights about unlocking the design code of quilts in this informative presentation. Learn more about Brenda at www.brendagaelsmith.com and www.serendipitypatchwork.com.au

About the program *Quilts & Composition*: Any quilt you make is an act of design. Whether it is traditional, contemporary, modern or an art quilt, you are creating a set of marks, shapes and colours that have a connection to each other. Drawing upon an inspiring collection of works from across the quilting spectrum, Brenda Gael Smith examines the elements and principles of design in action and highlights recurring types of quilt composition. Understanding composition provides a vocabulary for describing and evaluating quilt design and provides a foundation for developing your creative practice, whatever style of quilts you make.



OUTREACH

From Maria Eyckmans

Hello Everyone. I hope all is well.

Until we can meet in person at WRT, completed charity quilts can be dropped off at my house and Susan Wolman will pick them up and deliver them. Judy Simek will also accept completed charity quilts and help to get them delivered to their destinations.

Maria Eyckmans meyckmans@aol.com
Judy Simek judyfrog@optonline.net
Susan Wolman swolman9@gmail.com

BATTING

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.

Any questions regarding quilts, etc. should be directed to the following members:

- VA, Montrose, and White Plains Hospital - Rhona Hiney.
- Furniture Sharehouse and Hearts to Home - Susan Wolman
- Coming Home Project - Barbara Wexler
- Project Linus - Janice Ewing
- Pins and Needles – Lee Kimmel
- Marymount - Georgina Correa

**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.

Quilt sizes for the outreach sites are as follows:

VA- 42" x 60"

White Plains Hospital – 40" x 46"

Phelps Hospital – 42" x 60"

Furniture Sharehouse – 60" x 80"

Coming Home Project – 45" x 60"

Hearts to Home 36" x 36", 40" x 50", or 40" x 60"

Project Linus – 45" x 60" or 60" x 80"

*Project Linus will also accept other sizes.

Marymount –Wheelchair bags and lap quilts 50" x 65"

Pins and Needles is interested in children's crib size (36" x 45") quilts for Blythedale and Beacon Health Center.

Thank you to the following members who have donated quilts for charity in January:

Doris Capello – 1 quilt to Project Linus

Jean Borsellino – 1 quilt to Hearts to Home

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

Remember – if 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 until we meet again in-person.

OTHER OUTREACH NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES....

From the Rhona Hiney:

RE: A quilt donated to WP NICU via Lisa, our WP NICU contact.

I gave Lisa 6 quilts. She told me a story about a quilt made with love birds or a heart. At any rate, a mom gave birth to a 20-week pregnancy. The baby weighed 1.5 pounds. She gave the quilt to the new mom. The father was so excited he decided to take it home and hang it in the baby's room. It gave the couple hope that the baby will return to their home. *As of this writing*, the baby is doing well and will remain in the hospital for a little while longer. Whoever made that quilt, a big THANK YOU!

From Susan Wolman:

RE: Support for the non-profit group, *Days for Girls* (www.daysforgirls.org)

Our participation is to create the attractive outer layer from quilter's cotton for the DfG Pad, a washable, reusable menstrual health product. The fabric pieces for this layer should be roughly 10" x 12". PLEASE NOTE: the fabric can NOT HAVE FACES, ANIMALS, NOR EYES! It CAN have attractive patterns. I've avoided deep red or brown as it may look too much like blood! The fabric must be washed, dried, and ironed. Susan has an Accuquilt die available to cut this layer...please contact Susan directly for more information.

From Janet Brodie:

RE: Any available, leftover baby yarn.

At the December meeting, I showed the guild members several of the 50 preemie hats that I had knitted for the White Plains Hospital NICU. (*Editor's comment: The hats were all different and just adorable.*) If you pass along to me any leftover baby yarn you have, I will use it to make even more preemie hats.

I'm looking for good quality, name-brand orlon/acrylic baby yarn that knits up on size 2 or 3 needles and produces a smooth stockinette stitch purl side. My leftover yarn was Brunswick Delf-Baby. But, please no Red Heart Baby Yarn - this is a good yarn but the purl side of stockinette stitch is too rough for newborn skin.

Please contact Janet directly for more information.

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

Remember, many museums all over the world, i.e., not just in the U.S., have updated their websites to showcase their collections online...and frequently, you can browse for free! The list is way too long to be included here, so just do an internet search using your favorite search engine to find the corresponding website(s).

Northern Star Quilters' Guild: 2022 Quilt Show - *World of Quilts*, Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Rd, Purchase NY, April 30 – May 1, 2022. Guest Speaker – Jane Sassaman.

For information: www.NorthernStarQuilters.com

Color got you stomped? Check out this website, www.sensationalcolor.com, sent along by Jean Sparacin.

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