

Northampton Modern Quilt Guild Minutes & Meeting Notes

June 6, 2021

Via Zoom due to Covid-19

Attendance: 24 NMQG members

Vice President Betty MacLeod presided in President Julie Bermant's absence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE Sew Steady plexiglass table 18x24" fits the older Bernina 500 series (Barb Christ's dealer said it works in the 400 series too). She upgraded her Bernina 570 QE to the new model which has a longer throat so she can't use it. It is a great extension table for retreats or if you just want more room for quilting. If interested, email Barb Christ barbchristny@gmail.com

Potholder Reminder

- Mail by end of June
- Potholder show & tell scheduled for October 3rd meeting

July & August

- No monthly meetings
- *Third Saturday Sewing Circle will continue!*

Maria Shell Workshop "Making Prints Out of Solids" September 18 & 25

- Still 2 spaces available
- Registration now open to non-members at the higher rate of \$55
- Wait list – we will keep a wait list in case folks who have signed up need to cancel

QuiltCon 2022 ~ Feb 16-20 in Phoenix, AZ

- In person only – no Zoom workshops in 2022!
- [Hotel registration now open](#) – discounts for guild members

Program Committee is looking for new members to join in September & continue for 2022

BUSINESS MEETING

Approval of Minutes of May 2nd Meeting

Moved by Sally Wright, seconded by Sherry Morgan and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

Bank Balance as of 06/06/2021: \$5,880.65

One check for \$45.00 to be deposited

Scholarship Fund: \$90.00

September Maria Shell Workshop

- 17 Paid
- 1 not paid
- 2 openings
- Please don't let the cost of the workshop keep you from registering – contact Julie Bermant julie@jbermant.com for a scholarship!

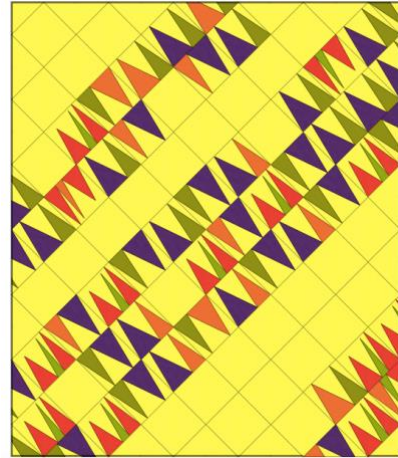
Community Quilt Committee Report – Betty MacLeod

[Modern Quilt Guild's Community Outreach Challenge Quilt for 2022](#)

Enough folks signed up at today's meeting that we are going ahead with plans to participate in 2022!

Diane Wespiser is coordinating our entry & has designed the quilt. Sally Wright will email Diane the list of all who signed up today.

- MQG challenge specifications:
 - Twin size – 65" x 85"
 - Angles – but no 90° angles
 - Specially designated palette colors
- Betty MacLeod is donating the batting & our guild will purchase all the fabric
- Photos of completed quilt are due to MQG by October 31st
- Members who wish to participate are asked to commit to making 5 of the 12.5" blocks
 - Email Diane DianeWespiser@gmail.com if you want to participate – and include your mobile phone number for texting
 - Diane says it's OK to improv the triangles in the block pattern
- Possible spaces for assembling the quilt top:
 - The new Valley Fabrics store next to Webs on Service Center Road in Northampton
 - Denise LeDuc and Suzi Day's studio in Williamsburg
- Our quilt will be exhibited at QuiltCon 2022 & offered for sale with funds going to:
 - [Women of Color Quilters Network](#)
 - [Navajo Quilt Project](#)



Local community quilts

Hold on to any you have completed – we will collect & distribute them this fall.

- If you only want to make a quilt top, Denise Le Duc is willing to do the longarm quilting
 - You must provide Denise with the batting & backing, which must be 4" wider than the quilt top on all four sides
 - She will add yours to her quilting queue when you drop it off
 - Call Denise at (413) 687-5929 before coming to the studio to be sure she will be there
- Connie Lentz Connie.Lentz@gmail.com is also willing to machine quilt our community quilts

Program Committee Report – Sherry Morgan

Fall Program Schedule

Program topics for our September & October meetings are both high on our members' request list.

Our fall programs will all be via Zoom. *However*, for our December meeting, Betsey Wolfson will reserve our pre-Covid meeting space in the Rocky Hill Cohousing Commonhouse, 100 Black Birch Trail in Florence. Fingers crossed that we will be able to safely meet in person by then!

- **September 12th (one week later than usual due to Labor Day weekend):** Guest lecture by [Sylvia Schaefer](#) on "Designing with Negative Space"
 - Those present at this meeting will be included in a raffle of a copy of Sylvia's book, [The Quilter's Negative Space Handbook!!!](#)
- **October 3rd:** Short video on straight line quilting on a domestic machine by Jacquie Gering, followed by a panel of guild members for tips and Q &A
- **November 7th:** Timna Tarr has arranged for [Scott Fortunoff](#), president and owner of the [JafTex group of fabric companies](#), to be our guest presenter.
 - Check our Scott's [blog post](#) on the fabric supply chain problems caused by Covid-19.
- **December 5th:** Our official "annual meeting" – Betty MacLeod & Lauren Price are working on games & special surprises!

Members needed for 2022 Program Committee!

- Currently 5 folks on the committee, 3 of whom will be rotating off for 2022

- Need 3 folks willing to join the committee who can begin in September (rather than in January) to plan for our 2022 Jan-Dec programs
- Please contact Julie Bermant julie@jbermant.com if you are interested

Covid-19 In-Person Safety Policy

We will wait to draft this until closer to the time when we can meet in person.

Williamsburg Snack Bar Exhibit Committee Report – Sally Wright

- 8 folks have signed up so far – but we would welcome more!
- Email Sally Wright sally.brat.tango@gmail.com if you would like to exhibit one (or more) of your quilts
- Maximum width of about 3', but can be longer
- June 30th in the afternoon is the earliest we can hang our exhibit
- You may drop your quilt/s off to Sally in Greenfield, or to Denise LeDuc dm.leduc@yahoo.com at her studio in Williamsburg
 - Be sure to contact them first!

New England Quilt Museum Passes

Our annual membership entitles us to 4 passes, each admitting 2 people.

- Because of Covid we did not plan a “field trip” excursion to the museum this year
- Please contact Julie Bermant julie@jbermant.com if you would like to use one of the passes

Proposed Amendments to Bylaws Article III. Officers

At Large Board Member amendment

- Moved by Betsey Wolfson, seconded by Barbara Farrell, and passed unanimously.

Staggered & Extended Terms amendment

- Moved by Betsey Wolfson, seconded by Denise LeDuc, and passed unanimously.

Article III of our bylaws now reads as follows (amended language highlighted in yellow):

1. Officers

The Officers are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board Member At Large. An individual who wishes to become an officer should understand and adhere to NMQG’s purpose and must have been an active member for one full year. Officers should attend 80% of the general meetings and meetings of the Officers, and they must, and they must fulfill the duties as described below in Duties of Officers.

4. Election of Officers

At the December meeting, new Officers will be elected to a two-year term, January through December, by a majority of the members present. Terms will be staggered as follows:

- *Odd years: President, Treasurer, and Board Member at Large*
- *Even years: Vice President and Secretary*

Candidates for President, Treasurer, and Board Member at Large are needed for the December 2021 election! Please let us know if you are interested.

Barbara Farrell is willing to train the new Treasurer, and to stay on as Co-Treasurer if necessary.

PROGRAM

Exploring Free Motion Quilting - Sandy Wright

Sandy noted that preparing for this presentation gave her a chance to pull together and articulate the

lessons she has learned over many years of free motion quilting. Her resource sheet was emailed to members the morning of the meeting and is attached here as well.

Sandy's effective use of real-time poll questions and breakout rooms provided added interest. Many thanks to Sandy, and also to Sally Wright for tech support!

Free Motion Quilting (FMQ) on a Domestic Machine Resources — offered to NMQG by Sandy Wright June 2021



1. Teachers with books, websites and countless YouTube videos (Google is your friend)
 - a. More formal; maybe uses templates; plans out designs:
 - i. Cindy Needham
 - ii. Lisa Calle
 - iii. Joanie Zeier Poole
 - iv. Judy Madsen (hybrid –planful and pre-marked using less formal designs!)
 - b. More informal; less marking, more “all over” designs, more free form
 - c. Angela Walters –Has run several “quilt alongs” on YouTube which are still available.
 - d. Patsy Thompson
 - e. Christina Cameli
 - f. Karlee Porter
2. All about batting Your favorite batting company probably has good online resources. I am partial to Quilters’ Dream batting. You can download their descriptive materials: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5lQYaFAMueAVUE0QUE4TUt2STA/view> You can also request samples of their battings.
3. Basting tips:
 - a. Spray basting from Patsy Thompson: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UoUzK19Vww&t=35s>
 - b. Pin basting tips from Cindy Needham’s class on Craftsy: <https://www.craftsy.com/class/design-it-quilt-it-free-form-techniques/>
Cross two toothpicks and tape to the center of your basting surface as an aid to centering your quilt back
4. Needles: everyone has their favorites! I like [Schmetz](#) topstitch needles -either 80/12 or 90/14. They are sharper, have a larger eye and a deeper groove for the thread to move along (so also great for thicker threads).

Do replace your needle often. It is really the part of your sewing computer making the stitch!

5. Thread: Use a good quality thread:
 - a. “Long staple” means longer fibers -which means less stretch and a stronger thread.
 - b. Thread is identified by a two-number system. The first number (e.g. “50”) is the thickness of the thread, the lower the number, the *thicker* the thread. The second number (e.g., 3) is the number of plies twisted together.
 - c. Sometimes you just need to switch your thread. Black thread is over dyed and sometimes is weaker. You can sometimes revive older thread by remoisturizing! --take it in the bathroom during a steamy shower, or put it in the freezer in a baggy and let it thaw.

6. Set up:
 - a. “Machingers” are my favorite quilting gloves.
 - b. “Supreme Slider” or a little Turtle Wax can make it easier to move your quilt. (Not as important as controlling drag/weight or using gloves).
 - c. You may like Quilt suspension systems ([see Carol Breyer- Fallert](#)). I have the one sold by [Patsy Thompson](#). I feel like this should be more useful than it is. I find I have to readjust clamps too often as I move around the quilt. Some people have used dog grooming aids: <https://www.quiltingboard.com/tutorials-f10/diy-suspension-system-%2460-00-a-t303241.html>
7. Designs & motifs: --Check the Modern Quilt Guild website and YouTube first for lots of free instruction. Also, if you have a membership to “thequiltshow.com” they have lots of segments on FMQ
 - a. Planful:
 - i. “Divide & Conquer” Lisa Calle (class on [iquilt.com](#) and [thequiltshow.com](#))
 - ii. Cindy Needham on [Craftsy](#) (see above)
 - iii. Judy Madsen -[iQuilt.com](#) classes -her book: *Secondary Designs*
 - b. More informal:
 - i. Angela Walters –an astonishing amount of free instruction via YouTube plus books and [Craftsy](#) classes [quiltingismytherapy.com](#)
 - ii. Patsy Thompson -Patsy seems to have made some of her DVD’s free downloads <https://www.patsythompsondesigns.com/free-video-tutorials.htm> . I have learned so much from her –just watching her movements and pacing. Don’t let the music and initial presentation turn you off.
THICK THREADS –Patsy’s class on [Craftsy](#) “Ultimate Free-motion Quilting” has a whole section on what she calls: “Hyper-Quilting”. –Bottom line -use a large topstitch needle and try it!
 - iii. Christina Cameli -[Craftsy](#) classes; [MQG](#) website
 - iv. Karlee Porter -fun [Graffiti Quilter](#) interview on [MQG](#) website