

## **Northampton Modern Quilt Guild Minutes & Meeting Notes**

January 3, 2021

*Via Zoom due to Covid-19*

**Attendance:** 31 Members and 2 Guests (actually 2020 members who have not yet paid 2021 dues)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cull Your Stash Consider donating fabrics that no longer bring you joy to [Swanson's Fabrics](#) in Turners Falls. All fabrics are \$4 per yard, and Kathryn accepts "trade of sewing and fiber supplies/materials, and trade for help in the shop."

Lee Sproull's Feb 6th Program "Save Your Scraps!"

Gather your solid scraps or seamed solid scraps (the ones you may have cut off while squaring up your quilt), and sort along with Lee while she talks us through making a mini scrap quilt. Lee will be emailing us further details...

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

#### **Approval of December Minutes**

Moved by Betsey Wolfson, seconded by Betty MacLeod & unanimously approved.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

As of December 31, 2020:

Current Bank Balance: \$5,894.91

- Income:
  - Memberships: \$900.00
  - March Workshops: \$110.00
  - Total Income: \$1,010.00
- Expenses
  - Mail: \$0.55
  - Zoom Use: \$50.00 - Paid to Julie Bermant
  - Bank Fee: \$3.00
  - Total Expenses: \$53.55

YTD: 38 Members have renewed

YTD: 4 registered and paid for March Workshop

#### **Tech Committee Report**

##### Guild Zoom Account

We now have our own guild account so that any one of our members can set up a guild event via Zoom, e.g. committee meetings, another sewing circle, etc. For detail contact Sally

Wright [sally.brat.tango@gmail.com](mailto:sally.brat.tango@gmail.com)

##### Access to our Facebook page

Currently 169 folks have access to the page, while our membership is in the 40s. We want to keep it a safe, personal space for members to share with one another, so at the end of February access to the page will be culled to include paid-up members only.

#### **Program Committee Report**

##### Julia Graves "Amazing Abstracts" Workshop

Registration is now open. See attached flier for details. In order to recognize their service to the guild, Program Committee members and guild officers will have first access to workshop sign-ups.

##### 2021 Programming

Diane Wespiser & Audrey Hyvonen have agreed to co-lead a program this year on designing with negative space. We are still hoping to find a guild member or members to present a program later in the year on domestic machine & straight-line quilting.

#### Next Program Committee Meeting

January 22, 1:30-2:30pm. New committee members welcomed! Please contact Sherry Morgan [smorgan26@comcast.net](mailto:smorgan26@comcast.net) if you would like to attend.

#### **Charity Committee Report**

Betty MacLeod has agreed to chair the committee. Members include: Barbara Christ, Connie Lentz, Debbie Lovejoy, and Lori Colliander. Denise LeDuc has offered to provide the committee with information on local charities willing to receive quilts, and the sizes they prefer.

#### **Guild Exhibit at Williamsburg Snack Bar**

We decided to accept the Williamsburg Snack Bar's invitation to display an exhibit of our quilts sometime this summer. Exhibitors may choose whether to offer their quilts for sale, with a small percentage of any sale going to the Snack Bar. Denise LeDuc will coordinate the exhibit and will have more details for us at our February meeting.

#### **2021 Personal Quilting Goals**

Our sharing of personal quilting goals for 2021 revealed both the wide diversity of interests represented by our members, and our common struggle to complete UFOs! At the end of these notes is a list of the goals we articulated which I have grouped according to themes. The goals most frequently mentioned are preceded by an asterisk.

#### **PROGRAM**

##### **UFO Challenge**

Seventeen of us participated in the challenge and offered brief comments as we viewed the "before" and "after" photos of the UFOs we managed to complete.

Betty MacLeod officiated at the on-camera drawings for gift certificates to the local fabric store of the winner's choice. The winners are:

- \$40 for 4 or more completed UFOs: Diane Wespiser
- \$30 for 3 or more completed UFOs: Betty MacLeod
- \$20 for 2 or more completed UFOs: Donna Thibault-Wong
- \$10 for 1 or more completed UFOs: Barbara Haugen

Betty also passed along some tips for working on UFOs:

- [Quilt Project Tracker](#) from [allpeoplequilt.com](http://allpeoplequilt.com), which can remind you what your next step was to be when you pick that project up again.
- Ask yourself why you are not finishing: is the quilting or binding giving you trouble? Once you identify the problem you can make plans to become more proficient or hire someone to complete the task that has become your stumbling block.
- Make a list of the UFOs. Just making a list can help you move along.
- Feel that it's OK to pass along (or cut up to use in another project) a UFO that is no longer sparking any joy for you.

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#### **2021 PERSONAL QUILTING GOALS**

\* indicates the goals most often mentioned

## **UFOs**

\*Finish UFOs - at least some of them!

In January work **ONLY** on UFOs

Not to start a new project until completing 1 UFO

\*Give myself permission **NOT** to finish a project if it no longer sparks joy

## **WORK HABITS**

\*Organize workspace &/or stash

\*Establish regular practice

Have no more than 3 projects going at a time

Clean workspace after each project

Feel free to make beginner mistakes

Be more present

Don't let brilliance of others stop me

Word of the Year: Quit it! Live by it! (e.g. Cherish, Grace)

\*Have FUN!

## **FABRIC**

\*Organize &/or cull stash

Accept the creative challenge of using only (mostly?) what is in stash

Buy no more fabric unless I *LOVE* it - not because it's on sale!

Rein in fabric purchasing

Stop saving your best fabric - use it!

Work with scraps

## **CREATIVITY and DESIGN**

\*Balance between making quilts for others & just to please myself

*ONLY* make quilts to please myself, even for gifts

Keep designing

\*Create/consult design notebook more to develop own ideas & style

Develop complexity of design

Learn to design on EQ8

Redesign website

Get new class online

## **MAKE SPECIFIC QUILTS**

\*Specific size, number, and/or type of pieces

Special occasion

Challenges & quilt-alongs

Make 65 fabric postcards to celebrate 65th birthday!

## **IMPROVE TECHNIQUES**

Revisit/Improve BASIC techniques: quarter-inch seams & pressing

Binding

Domestic machine quilting

Free-motion quilting

\*Longarm quilting

## **EXPLORE NEW TECHNIQUES**

More classes, workshops & other group quilting activities

Lots of exploration/experimentation

Appliqué

English paper piecing & hexagons

Fabric collage

Foundation paper piecing

Hand-sewing/Embroidery

Make quilt from photo

Make quilted jacket

Painting on fabric

Stencils

Thread sketching

Whole cloth quilts

Work in a series

Working with circles

Working with color

Working with grids

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Prepared by Barbara Haugen, Guild Secretary

## ONLINE QUILTING WORKSHOP

# AMAZING ABSTRACTS with Julia Graves

March 13 and March 20, 2021 (two Saturdays) / 1:00–3:30 P.M. EST

**CLASS DESCRIPTION:** Create an abstract quilt that has amazing movement and drama, using

the techniques pioneered by Ursula Kern\*. Go from inspiration to a simple sketch, then have fun “coloring” your sketch with bits of fabric to create a mock-up of your design – see before you sew! The design is gridded, and blocks are foundation pieced using an easy sew-and-flip method, with room for creativity and improvisation. Lots of discussion of design principles and how to use color and value to create the drama and desired effects. A supply list will be supplied before the workshop.

**FEE:** \$30–40 per person. 20 person max. If you wish to contribute to the NMQG scholarship fund, donations are welcome.

Julia Graves, Genesis 1:3 – Let There Be Light, 2020



**TO REGISTER:** E-mail Betsey Wolfson <wolfson110@gmail.com> AND mail your check (made out to NMQG) to Barbara Farrell, 73 Elm Street, East Longmeadow, MA 01028 before February 13, 2021. You are registered when your payment has been received. (To pay by **Venmo**: @Barbara-Farrell-29 / last four digits: 6894.)

**NOTE:** This 2-day class will use the participant’s own design. The on-line class will be conducted in two parts: Part 1 will develop the design and Part 2 will focus on sewing.

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### JULIA GRAVES, QUILTER, LONGARMER, TEACHER, AND ARTIST

Julia Graves started her quilting business, Special Occasion Quilts LLC, in 2007 and teaches, lectures, designs patterns, makes commission quilts, longarms for others, and sells and services APQS longarm machines. Graves won Best Longarm Machine Workmanship Wall Quilt Category at the 2016 Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival; is a Gem Affiliate teaching the gorgeous gem patterns by MJ Kinman – Textile Artist; has had her quilts published in books by Gloria Loughman, Katie Pasquini-Masupust, and MJ Kinman; was an Artist-in-Residence at Empty Spools in 2019; and will be teaching at Empty Spools in 2021 and 2022. Visit Julia online at <http://www.soquilts.com> | [Juliagraves82@gmail.com](mailto:Juliagraves82@gmail.com) | [www.instagram.com/juliagraves82](http://www.instagram.com/juliagraves82) | [www.facebook.com/soquilts](http://www.facebook.com/soquilts) | \*[www.instagram.com/ursula.kern/](http://www.instagram.com/ursula.kern/)