BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November 2021

Volume 29 Issue 3

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## NOVEMBER VENDOR

Fabscrap

Dear Members,

A lot of exciting things are going on as we plan for the coming year. At our Guild meetings we are adding a screen and projector in the hall so the Zoom participants can share their work. We want to hear from each of you!

A huge thank you to Sylvia Hernandez for her generous talk and for sharing her important work at our October meeting. It was deeply inspiring. I especially appreciated her creative tip to have 20-inch plain cotton squares cut and ready to use for when the inspiration strikes.

Our November in-person speaker will be Jessica Schreiber of *Fabscrap*. The organization is doing great work in saving textiles from the landfill and repurposing them. They sell the textiles that are reusable, and recycle the rest into insulation, carpet padding, furniture lining, moving blankets, etc. (See the article on page 12) Come and be inspired!

I wish you each a wonderful Thanksgiving with your friends and families. Take the time to relax and appreciate all you have.

Happy quilting,

Margaret Marcy Emerson Co-President

# 2021-2022 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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Something to share? The deadline for submissions for the December 2021 issue of The Brooklyn Bee is

9 a.m., Monday, November 22. 2021. Please email to: texasmcd@hotmail.com.

# The Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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# The Brooklyn Bee

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## **Our Social Media Links**

**Facebook BOM Group** 

Facebook Member-Only Group https://tinyurl.com/ycbwzom9

https://tinyurl.com/y6xv5wyd

Instagram @Brooklyn Quilters Guild

YouTube

watch?v=8Qfeous -lc

https://tinyurl.com/ycxzf8fs

**Monthly Show and Tell** 

https://www.youtube.com/

# **Guild Meetings**

NEXT MEETING: November 20, 2021, 11 a.m. Hybrid meeting: In-Person at the Holy Name of Jesus Church and on Zoom

The church is located at 245 Prospect Park West (enter at Shepherd's Hall in the back, off the parking lot).

A mask and proof of vaccination required for all in-person

ZOOM MEETING LINK: https://tinyurl.com/y3ekc9ug

**SUNDAY BEES:** Join us on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, 1 – 4 p.m. Zoom link Information will be emailed on Sunday morning and can always be accessed on the EVENTS page in the Member section of our website.

GUILD MEETING RECORDING: Did you miss the October 2021 Guild Meeting? Watch the Zoom version here:

RECORDING LINK https://bit.ly/3GClVXE Access Passcode: kw5\$zPH3

# Guild News & Notes

# Community Quilts

Thanks to our new Community Quilt Coordinator, Debbie Safian, for collecting information on the Guild's Community Quilt projects. Here's the report from the October

Annette Wallace collected a number of finished pillowcases at the October meeting. (Pillowcase kits were distributed at the Guild picnic held in June). She also brought 72 new kits and handed out many of them at the meeting. So far, she has donated 140 cases to the Ronald McDonald House. Please contact Annette if you would like to turn in your pillowcases or if you want new kits at wallace.netty123@gmail.com.

Diane Pryor-Holland has 60 completed quilts ready to donate to police families who lost loved ones due to 9/11-related illnesses, through the **Labor of Love project**. For more information, call her at 718-341-0974.

Carol Sullivan collected six quilts for **Veterans** and now has a total of 12 quilts to donate to the Brooklyn Veteran's Hospital for Veteran's Day. For more information, contact Carol at sulliquilts@aol.com.

Leona Shapiro brought eight quilts to the October meeting to be donated to the **Hole in the Wall** group. She also collected seven completed bed quilts to distribute to **Ruth's Refuge** and **Hour Children**. Volunteers are needed for machine guilting and the Guild can pay \$40 for each guilt. The group also needs more batting and wide fabric for quilt backs. For more information, contact Leona at leshop48@hotmail.com.

The Heritage group donated 26 quilts, 14 pillowcases, 5 cosmetic bags and 1 tote for the **Hole in the Wall Camp** at the recent retreat.

# Holiday Craft Fair

The PTA at PS 107 at 1301 8th Ave., Brooklyn, is planning a Holiday Craft Fair for Saturday, December 4, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Quilters and crafts people are welcome to participate. Vendors are asked to donate 20 percent of sales to the PTA. For more information, contact Vanessa Solly at vanessadear@gmail.com or 917-770-9315.

# Time to Renew Your Guild Membership

If you haven't renewed your Guild membership, this will be your last **Bee**, you will lose access to the member page on our website, and you'll no longer be able to participate in Guild shows. So please renew today! We don't want to lose any of our wonderful members. Go to https://www. quiltbrooklyn.org/membership for information and send in your completed form and dues as soon as possible.

If for any reason you can't afford to renew this year, please contact Barb Christ at BQG.membership@gmail.com or send her a quick note at her address, listed in the Member Directory on the website. All requests are kept confidential. Members have given generously in order to keep everyone connected to our quilting community, so don't be shy!

### **BLOCK OF THE MONTH**

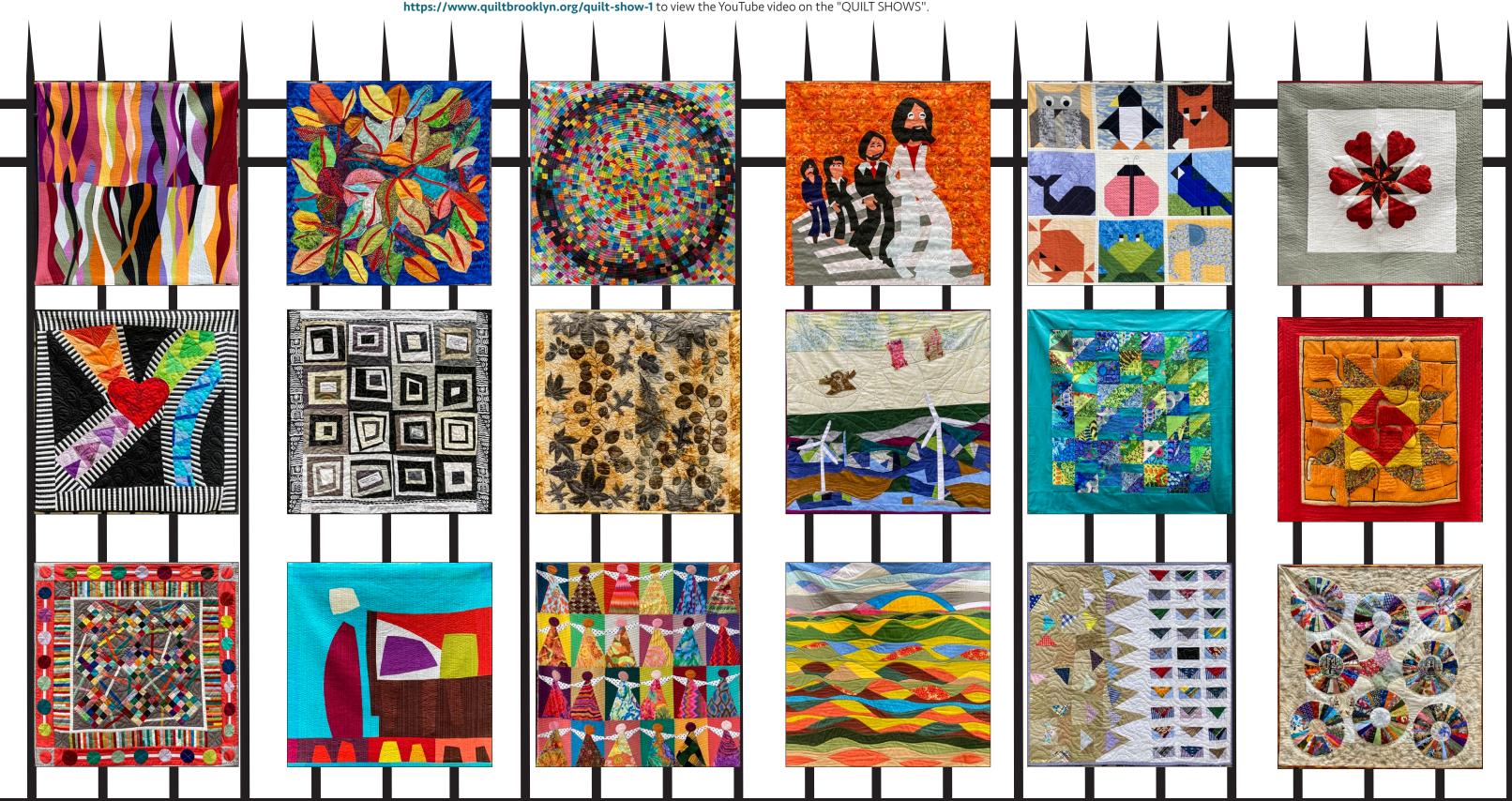
The Block of the Month is distributed to members in a separate email. It can also be found on the Guild website in the members section under "BOM" and on our BOM Facebook page.

# Membership Report

Membership currently stands at 213 members, of which 155 are new and returning members. Please welcome October new members Brigette Bellettiere, Lori Lupo, Maureen McLeod and Emma Hare.

# QUILT FENCE SHOW

After the success of the October 2020 and the April 2021 fence shows, the Guild did it again with the "Come Together" Challenge fence show at Holy Name Church on October 9. All who attended agree that the show was spectacular. The team that made this happen was led by Micki Segel and Madi Appell. And Pat Decker again organized the very popular free Grab 'N Go table. If you missed it, enjoy these photos of the quilts that were displayed. To see who made these quilts go to the Guild website, <a href="https://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/quilt-show-1">https://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/quilt-show-1</a> to view the YouTube video on the "QUILT SHOWS".



More detailed information on the retreats

can be found on the Guild's website at

# Your Chance to Have a Quilt Displayed at the International Quilt Museum

### BY DEBBIE BRECKENRIDGE

To coincide with the opening of its new exhibition, *Modern Meets Modern*, the International Quilt Museum in Lincoln, Nebraska, has announced a quilt challenge, open to all. Participants are asked to create a 16x16-inch quilt that responds to some of the antique quilts on display in the exhibition.

In the Modern Meets Modern exhibition, selected Modern Quilt Movement quilts from the museum's collection, representing the past 15-plus years, have been juxtaposed with groups of quilts made over 150 years ago. These antique quilts display cutting edge qualities for their time and can still look modern in the present day. The Modern Meets Modern exhibition explores common themes as well as differences between the two modern eras, focusing on

design elements as well as such factors as tools, materials, techniques, and modes of communication.

For this mini-quilt challenge, the museum has chosen four quilts to serve as catalysts for new work. In their miniquilt, entrants should respond to one or more of these antique quilts in an interpretive way. The challenge is open to all techniques and quilt styles. Individuals are allowed to submit up to two entries each. The deadline for submitting high-resolution photographs of the 16x16-inch finished quilt(s) is January 1, 2022. There is a \$10 entry fee per quilt.

To see the four catalyst quilts and more details about how to enter this challenge, see <a href="https://www.internation-alquiltmuseum.org/modern-meets-modern-challenge">https://www.internation-alquiltmuseum.org/modern-meets-modern-challenge</a>.

# **Cross Roads in New Jersey**

Cross Roads is a camp and retreat facility located in Port Murray, NJ, one and a half hours from Brooklyn. Information about Cross Roads can be found on the website, www.crossroadsretreat.com.

We have secured three retreat dates for 2022 at Cross Roads:

January 23–28, March 2–7, and May 31–June 5.

For more information, contact:

Martha Musgrove (marf86@hotmail.com) or

Susan Aronoff (susan.aronoff@gmail.com).

# **Heritage in Connecticut**

The Heritage Hotel is a Spa and Conference Center in Southbury, CT, about one hour and 45 minutes from Brooklyn. For more information, go to:

https://www.heritagesouthbury.com

The 2022 schedule will be available soon. If interested, please contact Carol Lieberman, 917-439-9549, or email: clieber@verizon.net.



# Ironing It All Out

### BY DEBBIE BRECKENRIDGE

Many thanks to the 38 Guild members who took the time to complete the ironing survey that we distributed in the Bee Blast this month.

Whether you love it or hate it, you probably agree that ironing is an essential part of quilt-making. Many survey respondents have strong feelings about their irons and how they use them when making quilts.

A vast majority (76%) of the guilters who responded to the survey said that ironing is "extremely important" to their quilting. Many of them recommend ironing all fabrics perfectly flat before cutting, as well as ironing all seams every step of the way when piecing, even though both of these practices take a lot of time. Michael Sengstack elaborated, "It makes all the difference at every step. Pressing before cutting gets me straight grains. Pressing while piecing even if finger pressing keeps the blocks sized properly and finished pressing makes a big difference when sandwiching your quilt and preventing bumps. Thank goodness I like ironing."

# **Ironing Approach:**

More than half (52%) of the respondents prefer steam to dry ironing although many of them said that they do not use steam when using fusibles or stabilizers. About 13% of the respondents prefer a dry iron in general, and 21% use a dry iron but also a spray bottle to dampen the fabric when needed.

One of the surprising findings is that 45% of the quilters who completed the survey prefer ironing on a wool mat to ironing on a typical ironing board.

Barbara Danzi elaborated on her ironing setup: "I use a...

- Clapper piece of heavy wood that you put on the seam right after ironing to hold the heat in.
- Big Board which sits on top of the ironing board and provides a 24" x 60" surface.
- I use a wool pad underneath the cover.
- I also have a wool pad of a similar size (24" x 60") which rolls up, and I take that to workshops."

Over half of the respondents use spray starch (or a starch alternative) routinely, particularly when doing:

- Applique
- Bias seams
- Binding
- Stack & Whack
- All fabric cutting

# Specific irons and iron features recommended:

A vast majority (91%) of the guilters who responded to the survey said that they prefer having the automatic shutoff feature on their iron.

The most popular brands of irons that our Guild members recommend are:

- 1. Rowenta (16%)
- 2. Beautural (16%)
- 3. Black & Decker (10%)
- 4. Panasonic (8%) mostly the cordless Panasonic was recommended
- 5. Hamilton Beach (6%)

Trudy Reeves has this to say about her Panasonic cordless iron: "I have a great iron and like to use it...

- The cord doesn't get tangled or in the way
- It's pointed at both ends, so you only iron where you
- It's heavy enough, but not too heavy.
- It has never burned anything but it gets out the wrinkles.
- It has both spray and steam.
- The water container detaches from the iron, so you can refill it while the iron is heating up."

Anna Fike describes her experience with a Sapporo (SP-527) gravity feed iron: "My gravity feed iron has a huge water tank, produces a lot of steam, and does not turn itself off. I did blow its fuse and had to replace it — not easy!"

Twenty-nine percent of the survey respondents recommend using a compact iron (e.g. Clover mini) when traveling.

Lois Strasberg suggested that in general, "expensive irons are not worth it. Read reviews before buying."

# Here are some specific ironing "lessons learned":

"I strongly recommend using starch. I never starched; then I saw several quilters on TikTok talking about starching. I tried it... and I was sold. My quilts hung nicer and looked better because the fabric was starched. Now, I starch routinely." ~ Nathasha Brooks-Harris

"Be careful when ironing fabric with a bias edge — you can iron a shape into an uneven mess really easily." ~ Margaret Walsh

"I have tried to get away with not starching my fabric because it takes so much time, but I always end up regretting it. I use Mary Ellen's Best Press starch alternative on all of my fabrics before beginning a quilt project." ~ Andrew

"I use my wooden (roller) iron while I'm piecing. I use the traditional iron when everything is assembled

~ Karen Bowen



Sapporo (SP-527) gravity feed iron and a wool ironing mat



Panasonic cordless iron and charging station.

Several respondents mentioned the dangers of not paying attention and dropping the iron, which can cause damage to the iron, the fabric, the floor and/or the quilter.

If you are in the market for a new iron, talk to Guild members about their suggestions, and you might want to read this article about things to consider when choosing an iron: https://www.quiltinghub.com/Articles/ArticleID/638



Beautural iron on wool ironing mat.





Thanks to Michael Sengstack and Debbie Breckenridge for creating and monitoring the survey for this iron story.



# Meet the Quilter: Emma Hare

# How long have you been a member of the Brooklyn **Ouilters Guild?**

For about five minutes! (Although my son, and now my daughter, have worked for the Brooklyn Quilt Guild for some time, setting up chairs and tables.)

# How did you find out about the Brooklyn Quilters Guild?

My son got a job setting up tables and chairs for meetings at the recreation hall of Holy Name church and one day he came home and said the club was a quilting club and that I should join because everyone was "very cute and nice."

# How and when did you get interested in quilting?

I tried to be a knitter and was absolutely terrible. Then I became a cross stitcher but one can only have so many cross stitched items in their home. Also I found it hard to be creative at cross-stitch, if you aren't the best artist. Then, about three years ago, my daughter joined a swim team where the meets were almost six hours long. I wanted something to do with my time there so I decided to teach myself a new skill. I had never sewn a button or hemmed pants before and I don't own, or know how to use, a sewing machine, but I loved colors and patterns and fabric. I got the book *Get Started Quilting* by Jessica Alexandrakis and followed step by step very carefully. I made mistakes and once bought fabric from Etsy that was actually for upholstery, but my first quilt is still my favorite.





# Describe how your quilting has evolved and what are your current projects and goals for the future?

I have not evolved that much, I must say. I still quilt by hand so it takes me a long time to make a quilt. At the moment all my quilts are a collection of squares, triangles and rectangles. I would like to move on to circles or hexagons (but I am afraid of English Paper Piecing) and maybe some day appliqués! I don't often use pre-cut fabric but I am intrigued by jelly rolls. For now, I would like to stick with hand-piecing. I don't want to move to a machine just yet. I don't know what is next but I have a collection of different fat-quarters that are cornflower blue and red patterned fabric and I am looking for the just-right pattern to use

# What is the most memorable quilt-related experience you would like to share?

I don't have a local fabric store I love so I have started hunting them down during any chance I get when I'm out of town. Whether it is a college visit for my son or an outoftown wedding, I hit up Google maps for the nearest quilt store. People have been so nice and excited to meet someone from out of town and it has taken me off the beaten path a bit. Another memorable experience was visiting the Whitney Museum of American Art where from now until February 2022 they have an exhibit called *Making Knowing*: Craft in Art 1950-2019 and it is wonderful!





Fabscrap was founded by Jessica Schreiber in 2016. She previously ran the textile recycling program at New York City's Department of Sanitation. When fashion brands reached out to her with a desire to recycle their textile waste, the DOS was not set up to handle this, so she decided to take it on herself.

She quit her job and pitched her idea on the TV show, Project Runway: Fashion Startup. Three of the four investors on the show loved her idea and kicked in seed money. Fabscrap then became a local solution to a global problem. This month Fabscap will open a second location in Philadelphia, thereby expanding their mission to reduce and reuse textile waste.

Fabscrap is currently located in the Brooklyn Army Terminal. You can purchase textiles from them on-line, shop in person (during the pandemic, by appointment only), or get five pounds of fabric free, after a two-hour volunteer shift. Quite a few members have volunteered - reach out if you want to know more. See **www.fabscrap.org** for more information.

The Guild will be adding Fabscrap collection bins at each monthly meeting for members to donate unusable, worn out textiles. Think: stained tablecloths, torn bed linens, duvets, sweaters, etc. They need to be 100 percent cotton, wool, silk, or linen. Poly/cotton blends are accepted. (No Spandex, Lycra, or elastane.)

I think you will find Jessica Schreiber's presentation informative and hopeful.

~ Margaret Marcy Emerson

# Continued from prior page

# What is your professional background?

I am a couples, family, and individual therapist. I am in private practice and also work for Memorial Sloan-Kettering.

# How does the Brooklyn Quilters Guild and any other quilt groups you belong to, support and/or influence your quilting life?

I have never been in a group like this before but I am hoping to learn a lot from others because I am newish. Also my family is completely sick of hearing me talk about quilting and fabric.

# How has quilting and the Brooklyn Quilters Guild helped you during the pandemic?

I quilted so much during the pandemic! It absolutely kept me sane. At one point all the stores were closed and even shopping on Etsy was a challenge, so I started gathering up old bedsheets for fabric.

~Margaret Pross

# Street Seen



Christine Janove wearing a mask made from the leftover scraps from her fence quilt.

New Aboriginal Fabrics, Sashiko & Boro Supplies, Japanese, Silk & Shweshwe Fabric, **Embroidery Kits** 

easypiecing@gmail.com





The winner of the October Block of the Month, the lively collection of pumpkins, was Martha McDonald, one of the Bee editors..









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# **Events of Note**

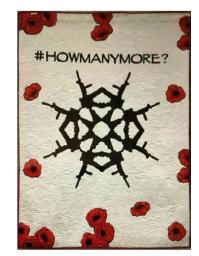
### **CLOSING SOON**

The Monmouth Museum. Uncommon Threads, August 21 - November 7, 2021, 765 Newman Springs Rd., Lincroft, NJ 07738, on the campus of Brookdale Community College. Eight Guild members are showing modern quilts. Information at:

monmouthmuseum.org

**Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Fabric of a Nation:** American Quilt Stories. October 10, 2021 - Janu-

ary 17, 2022. 465 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA, 02115. A selection of contemporary and historic quilts presents voices from multiple perspectives. Featuring quilters including Sylvia Hernandez, Bisa Butler, Carolyn Mazloomi and Harriet Powers. Information at mfa.org



Sylivia's Quilt at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts

# The Metropolitan Museum of Art, October 31 – June 13, 1000

Fifth Ave., New York, NY, Art for the Community: The Met's Circulating Textile Exhibits 1930-1940 showcases European textiles, ranging from Italian Renaissance velvet to French 18th-century printed cotton. Information at https://www.metmuseum.org

Whitney Museum of American Art. Making Knowing: Craft in Art, 1950-2019. November 22, 2021 - February, 2022.

99 Gansevoort St., NYC. Information at Whitney.org.

Quilt Week, November 30 - December 4, 2021. Daytona Beach, FL. American Quilter's Society. Member opening. November 16. General Opening, November 30, 2021, Wednesday -Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Email: shows@americanquilter.com.

Quilt Week, December 29, 2021 - January 1, 2022. Branson, MO. American Quilter's Society. Member opening **December 14.** General Opening, December 28, 2021. Wednesday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Email: shows@americanquilter.com.

# **Guild Calendar**

See the Bee and Bee Blasts for more information on these events.

# November

**November 14, 1–4 p.m.** — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

**November 20, 11 a.m.** — Guild meeting, hybrid inperson and on Zoom. Holy Name of Jesus Church. Proof of vaccination and masks are required to attend the in-person meeting.

November 28, 1-4 p.m. — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

### December

**December 14, 1–4 p.m.** — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom

December 18, 11 a.m. — Guild meeting, hybrid inperson and on Zoom. Holy Name of Jesus Church. Proof of vaccination and masks are required to attend the in-person meeting..

**December 26, 1-4 p.m.** — Sunday sewing bee on Zoom



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