



The Comforter

Crosstown Quilters Newsletter

August/September 2026

President's Letter

Hello my quilting friends,

I've missed you. I hope you were able to crank the AC and get some quality time in your sewing room this summer.

I'm finally strong enough to stand at the ironing board and cutting table. I've been making up for the lost time with quick and easy Christmas gifts (don't hate me!) They include two panel projects - a golden retriever quilt and an appliquéd Barbie quilt. Attending a Jane Haworth virtual class, I appliquéd two colorful chickens which I placed on a table runner for my sister. And I just finished binding a king-size quilt for a late-August bridal shower gift.

Enough about me. YOU will be led by an eager team of board members and committee chairs. YOU will enjoy a great line up of programs and events this year.

Hopefully, a few of YOU will volunteer to organize our 2027 quilt show - the crown jewel showcasing our creativity and sewing talents. There are plenty of people to help you.

Finally, I hope YOU will participate in our September show and tell and share your summer projects and associated stories with all of us. I know many of us find this the highlight of each meeting.

Cheers to a great guild year! See you on September 8.

Yours,
Barbara Graceffa, President



Quilt by Sheryl Briggs

Officers and Committee Chairs for 2026-2027

Executive Board and Standing Committees

President	Barbara Graceffa
Vice-President	Denine Surette
Secretary/Clerk	Lynne Cleary
Treasurer	Pam Kinsman
Programs	Mary Doller, Ellen Donnelly, Donna Fahey, Coni Wessman
Membership	Sheryl Briggs
Sunshine	Betty Ann Doherty
Hospitality	Donna Fahey and Maryellen Lawrence
BOM	Sandy Creaser and Helena Madden
Charity & Batting	Etta Forti
Website	Laurie Gozzo
Member-at-Large	Betty Ann Doherty
Quilt Show	TBD
New England Quilt	
Museum Rep	Janice Smith
Monthly Raffle	Donna Shiner and Sue Warchal
Photography	Anne Marcin
Blade Sharpening	TBD
Facebook	Rhonda Gudath
Newsletter	Annmarie O'Neill
Get-away	Donna Shiner, Pat Smith, Cecilia Paul

Programs: Mark Your Calendars

September 8	Speaker Holly Santangelo - trunk show
September 22	Left/Right/Center game with a twist
October 13	Speaker Ann Feitelson - trunk show
October 27	Speaker Amy Friend - lecture on "All Things Petal and Stem"
November 10	Guild members will present a Round Robin Technique
December 8	Christmas Party luncheon and raffles
January 12	Members Helena Madden and Betty Ann Doherty will present on the Collage Technique
January 26	Member Coni Wessman shows her Unfinished Masterpieces
February 9	Valentine Swap
February 23	My Favorite Gadget Show & Tell presented by members
March 9	TBD
March 23	TBD
April 13	Speaker Linda Pearl TBC
April 27	Speaker Sue Michaels TBC
May 11	TBD
May 25	Members Grand Show and Tell
June 8	End of Year Luncheon

Interested in Having Workshops?

If so, think about what techniques you would like to learn and how much you would be willing to pay for a workshop. Workshops by outside speakers are funded by participants' fees.

Please pass on your ideas to a member of the program committee.

What's Happening at the New England Quilt Museum



Visit the New England Quilt Museum at 18 Shattuck Street, Lowell. It is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 am - 4 pm.

Happening Now:

Boston Modern Quilt Guild:

Winners of Summer Celebration of New England Quilts 2025

on view through September 19, 2026

Commemorative American Quilts:

Selections from the Centennial, Bicentennial and Beyond

on view through September 26, 2026

Commemorative Quilts from the Permanent Collection

on view through September 26, 2026

Coming Up:

Applique Masters: Bobbi Korengold and Friends

on view September 19 through December 31, 2026

Precision Paper Piecing: Traditional Techniques, Contemporary Quilts

Linzee Kull McCray, Guest Curator

on view September 29 through December 31, 2026

The Age of Blossoms: Silk Origami Flowers by Nikki Hu
September 29 through December 31, 2026

AI: Artistic Interpretations

A Collaboration between Louisiana State University Museum of Art and Studio
Art Quilt Associates (SAQA)
on view January 12 through May 1, 2027

Upcoming Regional Quilt and Sewing Events



- [Follow this link](#) for Massachusetts events.
- See more New England events at [Sew Many Shows](#).

- *Don't miss the quilt exhibit at the Marshfield Fair* which takes place August 21 to August 30. Set your GPS for 140 Main Street (Route 3A) in Marshfield. Gates open noon to 10 pm daily.

Enjoy free senior admission on Tuesday, August 25.

The Quilts of Valor presentation takes place on the closing date at 1 pm.

- *Check out "With These Hands 2026,"* the quilt show of the Herring Run Quilters. View more than 150 quilts on September 19 and 20 from 10 am to 4 pm at the Marshfield Boys and Girls Club at 37 Prospectors Drive in Marshfield.
- *Mark your calendars for the Thimbles and Friends Quilt Show* on October 24 from 10 am to 3 pm at 503 South Avenue, Whitman. This show features an awesome (and budget-friendly) craft sale, too.

Our Favorite Quilt Shops



Photo source: Quilts Olé on Pinterest

Members have revealed their favorite quilts shops, both brick and mortar stores and online resources. If you have one to share, send the information (name and/or link) to amoneill@comcast.net to be included in the next newsletter.

[Ann's Fabrics](#)

235 Turnpike Street, Canton

[Appletree Fabrics Quilt Shop](#)

850 Southbridge Street, Auburn

[Bunny Hill Designs](#)

[Cannizzaro Creations](#)

20 Corporate Park Drive, Suite 130,
Pembroke

[Connecting Threads](#)

[eQuilter](#)

[Fabric Place Basement](#)

321 Speen Street, Natick

[Fat Quarter Shop](#)

[Homestead Quilt Shop](#)

54 Main Street, Lakeville

[Keepsake Quilting](#)

[Linda's Electric Quilters](#)

[Lou Lou's Fabric Shop](#)

[Madam Sew](#)

[Meeting House Fabrics](#)

83 Main Street, Wales

[Missouri Star Quilt Company](#)

[My Favorite Quilt Store](#)

Quilt & Cabbage

538 Main Street, Sturbridge

[Quilt Corner Studio](#)

6 Merchants Road, Sandwich

[Quilt Country](#)

[Quilted Joy](#)

[Quilting Books, Patterns and Notions](#)

[Shabby Fabrics](#)

[The Old Country Store](#)

Top Stitch Fabrics

155 Webster Street, Suite A

Hanover (Route 123)

[Tumbleweed Quilt Shop](#)

331 Cotuit Road, Sandwich

[WaWak Sewing Supplies](#)

A Recipe to Share



Have an abundance of zucchini from your garden that needs to be turned into something delicious (and maybe shared at a guild meeting)? Try this recipe from award-winning Vermont quilter Susan Damone Balch*. It comes from the Crosstown Quilters Cookbook, *Comforting Foods*, published in 1996.

Photo source:

[Sally's Baking Addiction](#)

Low-fat Zucchini Bread

Makes two loaves

3 eggs	¼ tsp. salt
2 c. sugar	3 tsp. vanilla
1 c. applesauce	1 tsp. cinnamon
2 c. peeled, grated zucchini	1 tsp. allspice
3 c. flour	1 tsp. ground cloves
1 tsp. baking soda	1/2 c. raisins and/or nuts (if desired)
¼ tsp. baking powder	

Grease and flour two loaf pans. Preheat your oven to 325 degrees.

Mix eggs, applesauce, and sugar. Add zucchini, flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt. Mix well. Add remaining ingredients. Bake for one hour.

*Check out Susan's quilts on [Instagram](#).

Quilt Trivia



What is the Feed Sack Era in quilting?

In the 1930's, during the Great Depression, fabric became scarce. It was during this time that the feed sack quilt became popular.

According to the [Love-Sew blog](#), "Companies noticed that many people were reusing cloth sacks that held animal feed, flour, and other staples to make garments and blankets. These companies began to package their products in cheerful prints to provide struggling families with decorative fabrics to use for clothing and quilts."

Ending on a Silly Note



[Photo from Pinterest](#)

If you would like anything featured in a future newsletter, please send it to

Newsletter Editor Annmarie O'Neill at amoneill@comcast.net.