



Village Squares Quilters Newsletter

November 2021

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Location: Westchester Reform Temple
255 Mamaroneck Rd
Scarsdale, NY 10583

Program: Linda Rettich

Schedule: 10:00 a.m. Board Meeting
11:00 a.m. Lunch
12:00 (Noon) VSQ Meeting
Followed by **MYSTERY BAG UNVEILING**
Followed by Show'n'Tell
Followed by VSQ Program

A MESSAGE FROM VSQ PRESIDENT DONNA GREENE

Hello everyone,

Well, I just took a color-saturated Color Catcher from my washing machine and – LOL – I only for a nanosecond thought about how to incorporate it into a quilt. Instead, it went into the trash can.

If you were at our October meeting, you will know what I am talking about. Our amazing speaker, Natalya Khorover, showed us how she uses these and a variety of other non-traditional “fabrics” (old *New York Times* bags, for example) in her quilts.

While Natalya was fascinating to me, what was even better about our October meeting is we were in-person “at home” (i.e., Westchester Reform Temple) with a speaker and felt COVID safe.

The same will be true for our **Nov. 9 meeting and beyond we hope.**

Here is what our guild is up to in the days/weeks ahead:

- **Tuesday, Nov. 9:** Our speaker will be Linda Rettich.
<https://lindarettichdesign.artspan.com/home> (See elsewhere in this newsletter for a brief description.)
 - The board will meet at 10 a.m. Arrive anytime thereafter. Per WRT, you must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask. Remember to bring your lunch. To minimize the removal of masks whilst indoors, WRT is asking that we do all our eating under the awning it has set up outside the Social Hall (where we will be meeting). Our coffee/tea and donated refreshments will be set up there as well.
 - If you haven't already turned in your diamond pieces for the raffle quilt that Rose is masterminding, please bring them as well.

- Business meeting will start at noon, followed by our special Show'n'Tell of the **MYSTERY BAG QUILTS** (see elsewhere in this newsletter) that will be donated to various charities. We will then follow with "regular" Show'n'Tell.
- Our program will start around 1 p.m.
- **Tuesday, Dec. 14:** A year after she was originally scheduled but was postponed due to COVID, Pat Yamin will be our presenter.
- **Tuesday, Jan. 11:** We will do our annual members-teaching members. TBD whether this will be Zoom or in person. We need volunteers to be presenters.
- **February** and **March** meetings will be by Zoom.

We currently have 43 paid members. We are hoping to get that number well over 50. If you haven't paid your dues, please bring \$45 to the November meeting or email me for the address to snail mail a check to. If you know someone who might be interested in joining our guild, please invite her/him to attend as a guest.

Thank you to everyone who has been helping to keep this guild running during these still strange times.

I hope to see you on Nov. 9.

Donna

REMINDER: Should there be any last-minute changes to the meeting location, VSQ will contact you via email (for those with email) or phone (all others) as per VSQ's snow emergency procedures. So, please check email (or voicemail) before leaving home for the meeting.

MYSTERY BAG UNVEILING

Provided by Donna Greene

We will have special Show'n'Tell of the quilts made from the large bags of fabric distributed to 20 of you. All projects will go to the charity of your choice from Maria's encompassing list.

So, those of you who are participating in the **MYSTERY BAG CHARITY QUILT PROJECT** are reminded to bring your completed (or near completed!) project(s) to the Nov. 9 meeting for a special Show'n'Tell and to be eligible for the cash prizes.

The cash prizes will be awarded based on random drawings.

If your quilt is not yet done (or started), you can bring it to the December meeting. Reminder – our goal is to distribute the quilts before the holidays.

I hope you had fun with this challenge.

NOVEMBER'S PROGRAM

Provided by Linda Rettich / Janice Ewing

Our speaker / presentation for November's meeting will be **Linda Rettich: Evolution of My Textile Work.**

In Linda's own words: I am an artist. I design, paint, print, sew, embroider, bead, weave, quilt, collage, and use all of these skills and more to accomplish what I do.

Since my retirement from my graphic arts business, I have gone back to some of my old loves: embroidery beading and other textile arts.

I love working in one textile area and taking a technique from that area and incorporating it, somehow, into another area where that process was never or rarely used. An example would be taking the most simple form of smocking into the areas of quilts and beadwork.

Throughout my retirement years, have been fortunate to have been able to take several wonderful textile focused trips to India, Japan, Peru. I have had the pleasure of visiting many different textile studios and have participated in some excellent workshops on these tours. And of course, I have collected some wonderful ethnic textiles along the way. Now, rather than keeping these pieces packed away in cabinets, I have decided to incorporate them into my work as well as items collected throughout my life. From quilts to jewelry and dolls in dioramas, I have put all my skills, interests and collections to work in my creations. I hope my talk will inspire you to try some of these ideas.

Bio



Linda Rettich has a BFA from Pratt Institute. She worked on staff as an art director for several publishing companies and then had her own graphic design business and created a wide range of direct mail packages, catalogs ads, book covers and much more.

Linda's quest into the textile arts started as a child, was put on hold during her years as a professional graphic artist, and then resumed after retirement.

Above is an example of one of Linda's Mixed Media Dioramas shown on her website www.lindarettichdesign.artspan.com.

HUDSON RIVER MUSEUM QUILT PROJECT

From Maureen Carline

Our 6 quilt making workshops at The Hudson River Museum went very well. Over 40 visitors and 10 museum interns learned to hand piece 2 quilts. The two quilts that were made for our Bedford Babies volunteers by the inmates at the Bedford Correctional Facility were prominently displayed at the museum as part of their quilt show.

Many thanks to Janice Ewing, Georgina Correa, Diane Coldrick, Rose Fox, Alice Clague, Judy Simek, Mary Anne Byrnes, and especially, Doris Capello for making this project run smoothly.

In partnership with the museum, we will donate the 2 quilts to the Furniture Sharehouse.



OUTREACH

From Maria Eyckmans

I hope you and your families are all doing well.

Janet Bozzone (JBo) and I took a ride up to Roxbury, CT to pick up some free batting donated by Fairfield. We packed every available square inch of Janet's car with batting. The batting is being stored at my house. Please contact me if you need any for your charity quilts at meyckmans@aol.com

Pins and Needles is interested in children's crib size (36" x 45") quilts for Blythedale and Beacon Health Center. They are being distributed Christmastime. Pins and Needles has pre-cut rail fence kits available for anyone interested in using them. Please contact Lee Kimmel (rkimmel22@aol.com) or Pins and Needles in Mt. Kisco directly (914 666 0824) if you are interested in a pre-cut rail fence kit. You can also use any pattern you choose. Completed quilts can be given to Lee Kimmel. She is collecting them for Pins and Needles.

Thank you to the following members who donated quilts to charity:

Ronnie Huvane – 2 lap quilts
 – 1 wheel chair bag

Also, thank you to the following members for making baby quilts for Pins and Needles:

Janet Bozzone, Diane Coldrick, Maria Eyckmans, Lee Kimmel, Nancy Pruyne, Rose Fox, Rhona Hiney and Linda Quartuccio.

Completed charity quilts can be dropped off at my house, and Susan Wolman will deliver them. Judy Simek will also accept 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

Marymount is accepting donations. They are interested in wheelchair bags and lap quilts. Georgina Correa (georginacorrea0312@yahoo.com) is our volunteer for delivery.

Quilt sizes for the different 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”

*Project Linus – 45” x 60” for or 60” x 80”.

*Linus Project will also accept other sized quilts.

Hearts to Home – 36” x 36”, 40” x 50”, 40” x 60”

REMINDER: To help Maria keep our count of Outreach donations up-to-date:

If you donate a quilts or quilts and / or wheelchair bags: please remember to enter the details in Maria’s binder at the meeting. The binder is usually on the membership sign-in table. Or, if you are not at the meeting, please e-mail Maria with the details (including where your donation is going).

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 is accepting quilts - Janice Ewing
- Pins and Needles – Maria Eyckmans or Lee Kimmel

Laurie Quadagno-Lagronegro has volunteered to help us with the quilting of our charity quilts. Contact Laurie at: laurieq2@gmail.com

OUTREACH - A NEW OPPORTUNITY

From Susan Wolman

As we decided at the last meeting, we will be participating with a non-profit group, *Days for Girls* (www.daysforgirls.org), in support of its mission to advance menstrual equity, health, dignity and opportunity for all. One of their programs is the DfG Pad, a washable, reusable menstrual health product. The DfG Pad is included in their, as they say, attractive kits that are distributed to girls in need worldwide, i.e., who have no access to sanitary napkins. Without them, these girls miss a week or so of school. The implications of this are both obvious and dreadful. Our job is to create the attractive outer layer from quilter's cotton.

To support this project, VSQ is now the proud owner of an Accuquilt die to cut the outer layer

for the menstruation quilts for girls. Our plan is to share the die, and take "a spin" of the Accuquilt. If you have an Accuquilt, we'll lend you the die: if you don't, we're hoping others will share with you and give you "a turn." The fabric pieces should be roughly 10x12. 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.

I'm guessing you may have pieces that you are willing to donate, but if not, we still have Blank Fabric cards that will do nicely. If you want some cards, contact me and I will bring them to the November meeting and subsequent meetings. I will also bring the cutter to the meetings and you can cut your prepared fabric. You also cut at home or wherever a loaner cutter is available to you.

A box will be available at the membership sign-in table to collect any, and all, cut fabric pieces.

As I write this, I feel myself getting excited about creating something we take for granted which will be profoundly important for girls worldwide. Thanks for helping.

Susan.

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).

Talk and workshop at the Hudson River Museum: Donna Chambers, a member of Northern Star Quilters' Guild – on Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 1-3.

This program is associated with the Exhibitions - *African American Art in the 20th Century* and *Landscape Art & Virtual Travel*.

For information: www.hrm.org/exhibitions.

Ask Adele's Fall 2021 Quilting Retreat: In-person event - November 7 – 11, 2021

This retreat offers something for everyone - Quilting techniques, Westalee Rulers and/or Open Sew! You will spend 4 nights and 3 full days at The Cape Codder Resort & Spa in historic Hyannis, MA on Cape Cod with ongoing instruction from Adele Scott.

For information: www.adelescott.com.

Mancuso Show Management has begun planning hybrid shows (i.e., on-site together with some virtual workshops). Next nearby show:

The Quilt & Sewing Fest of NJ, Edison, NJ November 17 – 20, 2021.

For information: www.Quiltfest.com.

Northern Star Quilters' Guild: 2022 Quilt Show - *World of Quilts*, Purchase College, Purchase NY, April 30 – May 1, 2022.

For information: www.northernstarquilters.com.

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