

MERRIMACK VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD

Encouraging the art of Quilting in the Merrimack Valley, MVQ was established in 1980

January 2025



Executive Committee **2024 – 2025**

President: Nancy Scarfo

Vice President: Beth Bell Lavoie

Secretary: Wendy Ward

Treasurer AP: Theresa Bourque

Treasurer AR: Zena Runkel

Go to MVQuilters.org and look under the board member section for the full list of all the board and standing committee members.

To reach any committee member, please address any correspondence to:

MVQ Guild, PO Box 566

Haverhill, MA 01831

Newsletter submissions can be sent to Lori Josephson at **lojo0617@gmail.com**. The deadline is the first Friday of the month at midnight.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year, everyone! As we embrace 2025, I hope this newsletter finds you all in good spirits and ready for a year filled with inspiration and creativity.

I am thrilled to share that this year is gearing up to be amazing for our guild!

Terry Taylor and Pat Johnson, our dedicated Programs Chair and Vice Chair, have been tirelessly working to put together an exciting lineup of activities and programs that I am sure you will all love. Their efforts will help foster our creative community and offer plenty of opportunities for us to learn and grow together.

Furthermore, the planning for this year's quilt show is already underway, and I cannot wait to hear all the innovative ideas that our Quilt Show Chair, Lori Josephson, has in store for us. Her passion for quilting is truly infectious, and I'm sure that this year's show will be nothing short of spectacular.

Let's also remember the wonderful opportunities our guild has with the two retreats hosted by Phyllis Lauria. These retreats not only allow us to unwind and recharge, but also foster camaraderie and growth within our community. It will be such a joy to connect with each other in a relaxed and creative setting.

The highly anticipated UFO auction happening next month, under the leadership of H  l  ne Parenteau, our esteemed Auction Chair and organizer extraordinaire, this event is surely going to be one of many highlights of the season!

Mystery Quilt, spearheaded by Wendy Ward, is a captivating project which unfolds and progresses through 2025, and serves as a true testament to boundless creativity and imagination. Thank you, Wendy, for inspiring us!

I look forward to sharing our adventures and achievements in 2025!

Nancy
Nancy Scarfo
President, MVQ

Next Meeting:

Scheduled for **January 16, 2025**

Sew & Know – ***Hearts! Spread the Love.***

Refreshments will be provided by members whose last names begin with the letters B-D.

This meeting is IN-PERSON at NECC.

The meeting starts at 7:00 pm, but doors open at 6:00 pm.

UPDATED Guidelines for Coming to the Northern Essex Community College Campus

While NECC is a Mask Flexible Campus, there are times that we strongly recommend wearing a mask, such as if you are considered a close contact, have completed the quarantine phase but are still within 10 days of your positive COVID-19 test, or are experiencing minor cold symptoms.

It is recommended that you wear the most protective mask you can that fits well and that you will wear consistently. Certain types of masks offer higher levels of protection than others. KN95 and N95 are more effective than cloth or surgical face coverings at protecting against the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

Please respect and support your fellow community members by staying home if you are ill, including if you have tested positive for COVID 19.

Board Meetings

Until further notice, all board meetings are virtual on Zoom. They are scheduled in advance on the first Wednesday of the month, starting at 6:30 pm. The dates are listed on the MVQ website under "Calendar of Events". All members are welcome to attend by contacting the President at least 2 days before the meeting and request an invitation.

All Committee Chairpersons are expected to attend the Board Meeting. Please make note that the next Zoom Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday February 5, 2025 at 6:30 PM. You will receive the Zoom link the day of the meeting.

WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!

THE UFO AUCTION IS FEBRUARY 20, 2025

*****DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*****

HOW TO DONATE:

- Contact H       Parenteau (see below) for pick up.
- Bring items to the January Guild Meeting (H       will be collecting items)
- We cannot accept donations on the day of the auction.

HOW TO VOLUNTEER:

SIGN UP SHEETS WILL BE OUT FOR JANUARY GUILD MEETING or SIGN-UP GENIUS WILL BE AVAILABLE

- Sorting and setting up will take place at NECC beginning at 11am on the day of the auction, February 20th.

Please take this opportunity to recycle your stash and make room for new projects! And, if you know any non-member quilters that would like to make fabric donations (perhaps they are moving?), please mention our auction to them. H       or her team may be available to meet people and/or come to your homes for pickups.

We would like donations of quilting cotton fabric, unfinished quilt projects, quilting supplies, embroidery, knitting, vintage sewing items and any other items you think would be of interest to your fellow quilters. (No books or magazines at the auction. Please save those for the White Elephant room at the quilt show!

Thank you so much for your help in making this another successful auction!

H       Parenteau
Contact Info:
helene@organizingspecialists.com

PROGRAMS

We're excited about the jam-packed program year ahead! Please visit our class schedule to discover all the upcoming [events](#). Pat and I will be wrapping up the 2024-2025 program and starting to look at 2025-2026 if you have suggestions forward them to us.

1. January –

- Support your guild members by attending and listening to the quilting journeys of two of our members.
We will be exploring the Zoom venue with David Hastings. Registered members should have received an email with registration information around 11/22/2024 you will need this to log into the Zoom meeting
- Brownbag challenge January 16th. Please bring 5 coordinated fat quarters to the January 16th meeting if you wish to participate
- Exploring [YouTube Channel](#) – Teacher's list and information for 2024 - 2025 has been posted let us know your thoughts. We will be posting 2025 – 2026 in the upcoming months.

2. February –

- Join us for the UFO Auction. – Further information regarding volunteer opportunities and times will be sent out shortly.
- We will be exploring the My Handmade Space venue with Anabelle and Jorge. If you have registered for this class, make sure that you stop by the store to pick up your supplies and download the bag pattern before the class.

3. March –

- Patty Sawyer

4. April –

- Michelle Banton

SEW AND KNOW

Janice Jones

janicemaejones@gmail.com

Hearts! Spread the Love.

This month's Sew and Know is all about hearts. The demonstration will start around 6:20 and wrap up just before our meeting starts at 7:00.

February is all about the UFO Auction, so there will be no Sew and Know.

I am currently seeking presenters for March, April, May and June. Please come forward and show or demonstrate your favorite technique so that we can all learn together. Contact me at the email above to schedule what month works for you.

Sew and Know is a great time to mingle with other members and learn a new tip or technique.

So, who has a favorite quilting tip or technique? Something you've been working on and want to share?

Please email me!!



MVQ Quilting Retreat

Info & Updates

January, 2025

Hi everyone,

Our next retreat is scheduled for May 15-18, 2025 at The Valley Inn in Waterville Valley. Details will be announced in a few months.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me.

Phyllis Lauria

PMLAURIA17@GMAIL.COM



January, 2025

Hi everyone!

This is a friendly reminder that I am the Sunshine Chairperson for the guild. I have appreciated that people have been letting me know of people who are in need of cheer!

The updated Sunshine guidelines are posted on the MVQ website, under Committees, then Sunshine Guidelines.

Please let me know if you know of anyone in the guild that needs some sunshine.

You can text or call (978-609-1050) or email (pmlauria17@gmail.com).

Phyllis

PHYLLIS LAURIA
PMLAURIA17@GMAIL.COM



DECEMBER 2024 GUILD MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 5, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

President's Remarks – Nancy Scarfo

- Nancy welcomed everyone.

Secretary's Report – Wendy Ward

- The minutes were accepted as circulated.

Treasurer's Report – Theresa Bourque

- The treasurer's report was accepted as circulated.

Membership – Linda Lydecker

- We have 4 new members.
- Door prize winners were Julie Schafer, Maryanne Karp, and Susan Kirberd.
- Fabric raffle winners were Janice Bye, Kim Schweisberg, Pat Crystal, Sandra Kassin-Deardorff, and Sue Cunningham.

Holiday stockings – Patty Hochmuth

- Patty thanked everyone for participating.
- The stockings are stunning.
- Every dollar is 1 vote and there will be 3 prize winners.
- The winners will be announced at 8:30.

Brown Bag Challenge – Patty Hochmuth

- Patty will be running a brown bag challenge for anyone who would like to participate.
- This is a new activity beginning in January.
- Anyone who wishes to participate will put 5 fat quarters into a brown lunch bag.
- A person will anonymously get a bag and will make whatever they wish with the fabric provided.
- Participants will have until June to complete their creation.
- You may add additional fabrics if you wish.
- In June, the complete projects will be returned to their original owner.
- See Patty with any questions.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Ward, Secretary.



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