

2026 QUILT SHOW: *Sunkissed*

All items to be donated should be dropped off at Hope Community Church, 11 Hale St. Newburyport on set-up day, Thursday, September 24th, 8:00–4:00.

Each year the members of Merrimack Valley Quilters Guild host a quilt show which is held at Hope Community Church. It's an opportunity for our members to show off their work to a wider audience (approximately 600 people attend) and for the guild to fund our programs throughout the year. There are many moving parts and volunteering at the show is a membership requirement (two-hour minimum).

The quilts are the main attraction and typically at least 150 of them are on display. Members can choose to have their quilts judged for a fee of \$6 per quilt. A professional judge is hired by MVQ for this purpose.

In the Atrium of Hope Community Church

Comfort Quilts

Every year, MVQ's Vice President chooses an organization to be the recipient of our Comfort Quilts. Members are encouraged to make and donate quilts for this chosen charity. Finished quilts are displayed at the quilt show and picked up by the charity at the end of the show. Quilts that are finished after the show, by the October guild meeting, will be collected by the charity at the meeting. Comfort Quilts will be displayed in the Admissions area. Please ask Beth Bell Lavoie for more information.

Silent Auction

The Silent Auction is an area of the quilt show where members can donate a handmade item or a gently-used purchased item. Items that have auctioned well are sewing machines that are in excellent condition, hand-painted framed art pieces, and hand-embroidered wall hangings. Items should be valued at \$25 or more. A portion of the proceeds from Silent Auction benefit a local charity. If you have any questions, please contact Maureen Terrazzano or Mary Gallant.

Penny Raffle

The Penny Raffle is set up in the center of the atrium at the quilt show. An individual member or a group can work together to make up a basket filled with goodies to donate. Baskets can be quilt related or non-quilt related, such as a chocolate basket or a movie night basket. The person/people donating the basket should wrap it in cellophane and attach a list of items it contains.

Also, scratch-off lottery tickets, gift cards and fat quarters will be collected by MVQ members to make up several MVQ baskets for Penny Raffle.

Quilt shops graciously donate door prizes to the show. Raffle tickets are sold at the Penny Raffle table.

Please contact Patty Hockmuth or Lisa Arsenault with any questions.

Raffle Quilt

We sell tickets for a chance to win our raffle quilt made by guild members. This year, *A Day at the Beach* will be raffled off at the end of the day Saturday. And the 2027 raffle quilt will be revealed.

Featured Quilter

Each year, one member of the guild is chosen to show her collection of quilts. The quilt show chair and vice chair choose this person and her quilts are displayed in the atrium. The featured quilter is present for the two days of the show to greet people and answer any questions about her quilts.

Mystery Quilts and Challenge Quilts

MVQ members have the opportunity to participate in a mystery quilt program. Starting in September, participants are given one step of the quilt pattern each month. Participants are allowed to choose their own fabric and colorways. The final step of the pattern is provided in March which is when they finally get to see the pattern name, designer, and an image of the final product. At the guild's June meeting, participants are invited to share their creations during Show and Tell. Please reach out to Wendy Ward with any questions.

MVQ members also have the opportunity to participate in a challenge. The challenge theme varies every year. This year's challenge is *I Get Around*. Check out our website [mvquilters.org/Annual Quilt Show/Quilt Show Challenge](http://mvquilters.org/Annual%20Quilt%20Show/Quilt%20Show%20Challenge) or contact Beth Bell Lavoie for more information.

Mystery Quilts and Challenge Quilts are displayed in a special spot in the atrium.

White Elephant

The White Elephant Room is made up of two rooms. One room contains yards and yards of fabric that you can peruse and the other has notions, books, patterns...you name it! Come out of those rooms with a bag full of stuff for little \$\$\$. Members are encouraged to take some time over the summer to clean out their sewing rooms and donate to White Elephant. Please email Hélène Parenteau or Minda Fowler for questions or details.

Kitchen

Sandwiches, snacks, and drinks are available for purchase.

On set-up day, MVQ provides lunch to members setting up the quilt show. Those who partake may give a good-will donation for the effort.

At the September meeting, Bev Valle and Terry Taylor will ask guild members to sign up to donate individually-wrapped snacks, desserts, water, and soda. They will be specific to their needs as some items don't sell well.

In the Gym of Hope Community Church

Boutique

Many MVQ members make crafts, such as knitted dolls, pins, and cards, and the Boutique is the place where they can sell those items. Members receive 80% of the sale price of their items sold and MVQ receives 20%. The Boutique is set up in the gym where the quilts are displayed alongside the vendors. Please contact Marilyn Yee or Diana Grammont for more information.

Vendors

Vendors sell their products. Their shops hug the perimeter of the gym.

And most importantly, the quilts!!

Our quilts are on display in the center of the gym. "Best of Show" and "Best of Judged" quilts are in their honorary spots near the kitchen entrance.

*Find a few things you can donate to and/or volunteer at to make this
a successful quilt show! Everyone's help is needed!
Thank you for your generosity!*

[mvquilters.org/Annual Quilt Show](http://mvquilters.org/Annual%20Quilt%20Show) for all quilt show information

Questions? Please ask Lori Josephson, Jamie Ruh or Liz Swan