



# Green Mountain Quilters Guild

## “MOUNTAIN PIECERS”

### Fall/Holiday 2020 Newsletter



### President's Message

Hi Again Everyone!

Since there will be no Fall GMQG meeting due to the coronavirus, I hope you agree it's better to be safe than sorry. There just isn't a way to meet and keep everyone safe. This means we will not be able to see you or the projects you have been working on. For this, I'm really sad...

In these upcoming days and weeks until we meet again, keep busy with the challenges we've given you, have fun with the puzzles and most of all "stay positive and test negative" as Norah O'Donnell of CBS news says.

Take care,  
**Sue Schoolcraft, President**

### In This Issue:

- **Bold Abstractions: A Life in Patterns**
- **Good Reads for the Long Winter Ahead**
- **2020 Endless Chaos & Worry**
- **Quilter's Word Finds**

### Crypto Challenge

Solve the code to discover words related to quilting. Each number corresponds to a letter. Hint: A = 4; T = 22

Sue Schoolcraft

A	9	4	22	22	6	14	7												
B	22	29	18	5	4	20													
C	19	4	9	18	6	1													
D	18	26	22	4	18	12		1	9	22	22	5	18						
E	3	5	15	6	14	7		23	4	1	29	6	14	5					



Answers on page 8.





## **Bold Abstractions: A Life in Patterns**

**by Rosalind Daniels**

*Roz Daniels was scheduled to be a featured quilter at the 2020 Vermont Quilt Festival. We were sorry the show had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. We are pleased that she was willing to share her VQF essay with us and look forward to seeing some of her quilts when GMQG meets again.*

I had the book *The Romance of the Patchwork Quilt* by my side for over 10 years before I made my first quilt. I consistently examined the graphic quality of the designs and was drawn to the notion of romance in fabric.

Touching fabric has brought me joy for as long as I can remember. In fact, I wonder if there's a 'loves-fabric' gene somewhere in my DNA. My great grandmother worked in a fabric store and made everything her eight grandchildren wore except their shoes and overalls. And my mother was a home economics teacher who taught me to sew as soon as I was interested.

It was the approaching birth of my first child that finally pushed me to make a quilt. I followed a purchased pattern that included appliqued ducks with a stuffed duckling to tuck under mama's wing. I had no trouble following the pattern since I had been sewing for years, but I didn't know how to continue quilting on my own.

Four years later while living overseas, I answered a tiny ad in the newspaper for "would-be quilt makers" to gather and began a weekly journey into learning to quilt with Mary Jane Lindley. We worked quietly on our own for two years and I loved it. There were no Quilt Police to tell me what I should be doing, so I did whatever I wanted with the fantastic, vibrant, colorful fabrics available in Pakistan.

Naturally, my aesthetic grows out of my life experience. In my formative years in the late 60s and early 70s, I grew to love the bold, simple designs of Op Art, particularly as printed onto Marimekko fabric from Finland. My degree in Math left me comfortable with the geometry of designing with fabric. And the art courses I've taken over 25 years have given me the confidence to continue on my own path. Perhaps most importantly, the astonishing colors and patterns of fabrics worn in riotous combination in the tropical countries where I lived left me with a 'no holes barred' and sometimes non-Western approach to color. While trying to create order with such bold patterns, I chose very simple quilt designs, often the basic nine-patch.

My process for creating my work is pretty straightforward. With the exception of my protest pieces, my designs are fabric-inspired. Being attracted to large-scale prints, I don't do extensive piecing. I usually begin with one fabric that grabs me or find two pieces of fabric that talk to each other as I iron new arrivals. I then begin pinning these new favorites to my design wall and auditioning other pieces to join the party. When I have chosen a few fabrics, I cut one or two into rectangles, just guessing on size in an approach I think of as 'Square it up Later.'

From this point the process slows. I move things around, take photos, look for more fabric players, and wait. I eagerly anticipate sneaking up on a piece in progress every morning to see how it's doing and making corrections to what I missed the day before.

## Bold Abstractions: A Life in Patterns (continued)

When a quilt top is finished, it is time for my favorite process: the actual quilting. I love how the sewing of three layers together creates depth and shadow adding new patterns to my fabric combination. I think of this as embossing my fabric. This, too, is a time-intensive process with a lot of pauses before deciding what design to quilt next.

Finishing a quilt for me is a means to getting to the next idea that is always more exciting than the last.

The fabrics, patterns, and quilts of my life have carried me through remarkable times and serve as physical reminders of much of the last thirty years. In his new book *Why We Quilt*, Thomas Knauer says quilts are “autobiography in cloth and thread.” I couldn’t agree more and can’t wait to return to the studio.

***“Self Portrait in Blue” and “Splattered” by Roz Daniels are currently out in exhibits:***



*Self Portrait in Blue*

Splattered will be part of the Surface Design Association's exhibit Mandatory Color when the [Museum of Texas Tech University](https://www.museumoftexas-tech.edu/) opens. We've been told it will open October 22nd, but I don't see it on their website.

Self Portrait in Blue is part of an online exhibit called Who Am I? organized by the Sebastopol Center for the Arts in Sebastopol, California. It's online at <https://seabarts.org/visual-arts/sca-digital-exhibitions-who-are-you-2/#gallery> Once there, click on **Enter Who Am I?**

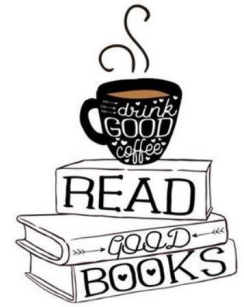


*Splattered*



## Good Reads for the Long Winter Ahead

by Marianne Kotch



If building a routine is a good way to cope with the chaos of these times, then for this retired librarian reading needs to be part of the daily mix. Now that I'm spending more time indoors, I hop from quilting to knitting to reading. I might cook or run the vacuum cleaner once in a while. I must admit that some of what I read is pure fluff. That includes mysteries featuring dogs (like Spencer Quinn's *Chet and Bernie* books) and food (like Diane Mott Davidson's *Goldie* series). My favorite book this year was, surprisingly, an engrossing story about a near-future pandemic that creates an dystopian world for survivors (*Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mantel), recommended by fellow quilter, Sarah Page.

Over the years, though, some of my favorite novels have been quilt related. My favorite author, Sandra Dallas, combines quilting with historical stories of the west. All of the Denver native's books are easy reading, and many include quilts in the larger context of the characters' lives. They generally have happy endings which are comforting right now. Her first novel, *The Persian Pickle Club*, tells of the support aid a group of quilters offer each other in Depression-era Kansas, while *A Quilt for Christmas* relates a woman's fight to keep her family farm intact while her husband is off fighting in the Union Army. The emotions and friendships these women develop through quilting feels all too familiar and timeless.

Beginning with *A Single Thread*, Marie Bostwick's six volume "Cobbled Court" series focuses on the owner and customers of a Connecticut quilt shop and the life challenges they face. I especially enjoyed the two volume spin-off set in Texas, beginning with *Between Heaven and Texas*, about a quirky TV quilt artist and her son. Bostwick's more recent books don't feature quilting but are enjoyable nonetheless. Her excellent blog (<https://mariebostwick.com/blog/>) offers news about books, recipes, and thoughts for living.

You may have read Jennifer Chiaverini's "Elm Creek" series, beginning with *The Quilter's Apprentice*. If you'd like to read more, there's a complete list of her books at [www.elmcreek.net](http://www.elmcreek.net). I really enjoy her historical novels; two outstanding stand-alones are *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker* and *Christmas Bells*.



Let's not forget about the GMQG's own Sonya Hakala's "Carding, Vermont" series, beginning with *The Road Unsalted*. One of the main characters runs a world renowned school for traditional arts, including quilting. The town features many eccentric but familiar characters whose lives are entwined. Sonya's website, <https://sonjahakala.com/>, offers weekly stories that take her characters further, and you can subscribe to the installments via email.

Here's a list of a few more favorites I've discovered over a lifetime of reading:

- ◆ *Quilt as Desired (Harriet Truman #1)* – Arlene Sachitano.
- ◆ *The Goodbye Quilt* – Susan Wiggs
- ◆ *The Lover's Knot (Someday Quilts #1)* – Clare O'Donohue

- ◆ *Threads of Deceit (Vineyard Quilt Mystery #1)* — Mae Fox
- ◆ *To Scotland with Love (Kilts and Quilts #1)* – Patience Griffin

More titles can be found by going to [www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com) and typing “quilts,” or “quilting” in the search box. And if you can recommend a good quilting related novel, please get in touch with me. The winter is long, and I can’t quilt all the time!

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## 2020: Endless Chaos and Worry

*by Marianne Kotch*

This has been a weird year. Almost everyone I know is looking forward to 2021. Society around the globe is in turmoil. Many of us have experienced illness, anxiety, and even fear in our lives and those of our loved ones. Calls, emails, and Zoom aren’t great substitutes for our usual closeness. We are exhorted to believe “we’re all in this together,” but we can’t be together.

Looking for ways to cope (besides quilting more than usual and cleaning closets), I’ve read a bit about the angst we are experiencing. One of the best and most succinct things I’ve seen has been by author Marie Bostwick. She recently posted *9 Things To Do To Stop Worrying* on her blog (<https://mariebostwick.com/9-things-to-do-to-stop-worrying/>), and it is solid advice:

1. **Unplug** – the news, social media, etc. As Marie says, “how many of us really *need* news 24 hours a day?”
2. **Phone a friend** – maintain connections with those who can give you good advice and help you stop worrying.
3. **Take a walk** – fresh air and sunshine will do your body good so you can calm your mind. And maybe you’ll be able to sleep better and recharge.
4. **Say a prayer** – I’m not religious, but I look for the things I’m grateful for, with living in Vermont being close to the top.
5. **Read a book** – escape to another world or time, read about someone else’s troubles and how s/he resolved them.
6. **Have a laugh** – watch a funny movie or TV show. Our neighbors got together this summer for an outdoor Marx Brothers film which was so-so, but we really enjoyed social distancing... with BYO wine and snacks!
7. **Get a hobby** – maybe quilting is enough for you, but if not, you could knit, try a new recipe, work on genealogy, write your memoirs, etc.
8. **Bust a move** – Marie turns on the music and dances. I do yoga instead.
9. **Make a list** – when all else fails, Marie suggests writing an action plan to deal with the things you’re worrying about.

Wishing you all the best as this “annus horribilis,” as Queen Elizabeth called the year Princess Diana died, comes to an end!

# Quilters Word Finds

## Theme: Fall and Quilting



Find the quilting words or group of words from the list. The hidden words can be read forward, backward, up, down, diagonally and in a straight line. Good luck and Enjoy!

Sue Schoolcraft

B	A	T	I	K	E	L	K	C	I	S	E	N	A	J	T	U	C
A	I	P	I	S	Q	U	A	S	H	T	M	A	I	E	K	A	B
T	D	R	N	O	T	T	O	C	E	U	S	M	P	O	N	D	S
S	E	A	D	T	Q	U	I	L	T	S	C	P	M	D	O	E	H
E	B	C	I	S	A	T	N	U	T	S	A	L	L	I	R	W	O
E	B	O	A	U	F	E	A	T	H	E	R	E	D	S	T	A	R
N	I	R	N	N	E	L	N	O	D	E	E	R	P	U	P	E	T
R	E	N	C	V	F	L	Y	I	N	G	C	U	A	P	A	L	E
E	M	L	O	G	C	A	B	I	N	I	R	N	L	P	E	A	R
T	U	D	R	H	R	A	W	T	N	N	O	E	C	E	R	S	D
N	M	O	N	E	O	L	S	E	W	G	W	A	H	R	E	N	A
A	M	W	B	N	W	O	K	B	E	E	G	T	I	E	D	O	Y
L	T	N	O	I	R	I	B	E	A	R	O	E	N	I	R	W	S
O	H	I	O	F	N	I	M	A	P	L	E	L	E	L	O	F	T
K	I	C	K	U	P	D	P	R	C	O	L	O	R	S	B	L	B
C	O	C	O	N	N	I	K	P	M	U	P	I	N	T	E	A	I
A	A	B	L	A	C	K	C	A	T	S	T	A	R	I	T	K	A
J	R	I	A	T	T	I	C	W	I	N	D	O	W	S	P	E	S

- JACK FROST
- JACK O LANTERN
- JANE SICKLE
- KICK
- LOFT
- LOG CABIN
- MAPLE
- NINE
- NUTS
- OHIO
- PALE
- PEAR
- PET
- PIN
- PIN
- PONDS
- PUMPKIN
- QUILTS
- RAW
- RIP
- ROW
- RUN
- SAT
- SCARE CROW
- SEW
- SHORTER DAYS
- SNOWFLAKE
- SQUASH
- STAR
- SUN
- SUPPER
- TEA
- TIED
- UP

- ACORN
- AIR
- AMPLE
- APPLE
- ATTIC WINDOW
- AUTUMN
- BAKE
- BATIK
- BATS
- BEAR
- BEE
- BIAS
- BIND
- BIRDS FLY
- BLACK CATS
- BOO
- BOO
- BORDER
- CANDLE
- CLAP
- CLOTH
- COCO
- COLORS
- COTTON
- CROW
- CUT
- DEBBIE MUMM
- DEER
- DEW
- DOE
- DOVE
- DOWN
- FEATHERED STAR
- FLYING
- FLYING GEESE
- FUN
- HEN
- INDIAN CORN
- IT

# Christmas Inspiration

Tis the season to work on projects for the holiday season. This year will look a lot different than we are used to but all the more reason to embrace our traditions where we can.

Christmas projects are just a Goggle away if you are comfortable using internet. If not, perhaps you have an abundance of crafty magazines or pattern books filled with projects you've always wanted to try. And of course, our local quilt shops offer inspiration around every corner. Below we've listed some suggestions but the possibilities are endless.

- \* Eyeglass cases
- \* Zipper bags
- \* Coasters
- \* Table runners
- \* Mug Rugs



*Christmas Stocking*



Chapstick Key



Folded Fabric Ornament



Water Bottle Holder

- \* Stockings—<http://land.missouriqltco.com/christmas-stockings>
- \* Market Bag— <http://www.free-tutorial.net/2020/06/market-bag-tutorial.html?m=1>
- \* Pillow cases—<https://sewverycrafty.com/make-pillow-case-5-easy-steps/>
- \* Reuseable fabric gift bags—<https://littledeartracks.blogspot.com/2012/12/fabric-gift-bags.html?pref=pi&m=1>
- \* Ornaments—
  - \* 3-D Fabric Snowflake— <https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=pEgWUmgKFv8&app=desktop>
  - \* Folded Fabric Ornament—<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VwvNU1pGd-Y&app=desktop>
  - \* No Sew Christmas Ornament—<https://www.benandme.com/homemade-quilted-christmas-ornaments>
- \* Chapstick holder key chain—<https://crazylittleprojects.com/chapstickkeychainholderpattern/>
- \* Water bottle carrier— <https://artzycreations.com/water-bottle-holder-with-free-pattern/>

## Correction to Summer Newsletter

Jeanne Hutchinson designed AND MADE the logo wallhanging entirely herself. It was not executed by anyone else. I was on the board at that time and was newsletter editor. Page 4 in the Summer 2020 newsletter had that erroneously. Whomever was the current President would keep it and then pass it along to the succeeding President. It was "misplaced" for a few years and then rediscovered. *Nola Forbes*

## GMQG BOARD MEMBERS

President - Sue Schoolcraft
Vice President - Lorrie Churchill
Treasurer - Robin Mascitti
Recording Secretary - Marianne Kotch
Corresponding Secretary and Facebook - Sandy Wilmot
Membership - Jan Sherman
Historian - Robin Gurney
Newsletter and Guild Liaison - Tess Greaves
Webmaster - Sandy Wilmot
Website: <a href="http://greenmountainquiltersguild.wordpress.com">greenmountainquiltersguild.wordpress.com</a> (current)
<a href="http://greenmountainquiltersguild.com">greenmountainquiltersguild.com</a> (coming soon)
Join us on FACEBOOK! <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1678830182330328/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1678830182330328/</a>
<b>Contact any GMQG Board Member by email at: <a href="mailto:greenmountainquiltersguild@gmail.com">greenmountainquiltersguild@gmail.com</a></b>



*Christmas Tablerunner, Marianne Kotch*

### Green Mountain Quilter's Guild Virtual Quilt Show & Tell

Since we can't get together in person, how about a Facebook Virtual Quilt Show & Tell? Any member can post photos and stories of finished quilts or works in progress to GMQG's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1678830182330328/>) Have you heard about an online show or learning experience? We'd love you to share those links as well. Not comfortable using Facebook but would like to share with us? Email your photos, stories, etc. to Tess Greaves, [aseasonforquilting@gmail.com](mailto:aseasonforquilting@gmail.com). Thank you!

**Answers to Crypto Challenge**

A	B	A	T	T	I	N	G												
B	T	H	R	E	A	D													
C	F	A	B	R	I	C													
D	R	O	T	A	R	Y				C	U	T	T	E	R				
E	S	E	W	I	N	G				M	A	C	H	I	N	E			



## MEMBERSHIP

Registration: If you haven't registered in 2020 and wish to now, please fill out the registration form below and mail it to Jan Sherman, 4426 VT Route 100, Waterbury, VT 05676. Enclose a SASE and I will mail your registration card to you.

If you aren't sure if you registered or not, please contact me, by phone: 802-244-7001 or by email: pudderhill@comcast.net, and I will check it for you. I'm looking forward to seeing you when we meet again. *Jan Sherman*

### GREEN MOUNTAIN QUILTERS GUILD 2020-2021 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Annual Membership - May 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>

No charge for membership in the **Green Mountain Quilters Guild** for 2020-2021

**Please send 2 items to: JANICE SHERMAN, 4426 VT ROUTE 100, WATERBURY, VT 05676**

1) this completed Membership Form and 2) a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope

***PLEASE PRINT VERY CLEARLY - THANK YOU!***

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Long Arm quilter? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Are you a Quilt Instructor? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

What do you teach? \_\_\_\_\_

To Be Completed by Membership Chair: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_



**Green Mountain Quilters Guild**  
**c/o Tess Greaves**  
**54 Greaves Rd.**  
**Hardwick, VT 05843**