



Green Mountain Quilters Guild “MOUNTAIN PIECERS” Winter 2021 Newsletter

Next Newsletter Deadline : April 1, 2021
No Fooling!

President's Message

Hi Again Everyone!

It's a bright, sunny day as I write this, but very cold. This morning we experienced our coldest temperature that we have yet had, -7°, but the sun has really warmed it up. It's been a few years since we've been here this time of year as we usually take the month of February to visit our daughter in Florida but because of Covid being so prevalent there and quarantine restrictions, we're staying here. This gives me more time to work on my quilt projects!

For this year I set a goal for myself of making 24 baby quilts for Gifford Hospital's birthing center. For me, crib sized quilts are very manageable size-wise as I don't have a lot of work space and I know the quilts will be put to good use.

When I give the quilts to the nurses they get very excited and ooh and ah over them. Sometimes I even get to meet a recipient of one of my quilts or get a written thank you. So far I've done 14 so I

may need to up my goal. This being the first month of the year. Also, it's using up some of my fabric so I can get more.

Covid continues to define our days but we must look forward and see the positive in each and every one.

Please take care everyone, stay safe and we'll all be together again ASAP.

Sue Schoolcraft, President

P.S. Don't forget to work on your challenges and PLEASE send us photos, jokes, words of wisdom, etc. for our next newsletter due April 1st. I'd like each club president to send a paragraph of your club's activities or yours, if they are meeting, etc. AND a photo of quilts, etc. you or club members have made during this pandemic.

Thanks!





Green Mountain Quilter's Guild is offering a **Virtual Quilt Show!** Here's how to participate.

We love and miss the show and tell part of our guild meetings, so thought we'd try to share this in a new way.

Use this link to submit your entry. You'll be asked to provide: your name, your email, the category of quilt (see below), a short description or history of why you made this quilt, and a digital photo of your entry.

Entry Form Link (this link will also be on our Facebook page): [GMQG Virtual Quilt Show Entry Form \(google.com\)](#)

If you are not able to use this online entry form, please provide the same information on an index card, along with a printed photo of your entry, and mail this to:

Sandy Wilmot
618 Poker Hill Road
Underhill, VT 05489

Deadline for entry: March 1, 2021 (midnight) postmarked or online entry.

Categories:

- Wall hangings
- Baby quilts
- Lap quilts
- Full size quilts
- Quilted clothes

We will send you a confirmation note letting you know we've received your entry.

Judging:

After we receive all the entries you will have an opportunity to vote for your choice in each category. We will organize the photos by category and send you an online voting form. Photos of the winning quilts for each category will be posted on our Facebook page.

If you need assistance with the entry form or have questions, contact: sandy.wilmot@yahoo.com

Mysteries, Quilt Alongs, and More

by Marianne Kotch

Did you join in the fun of Bonnie Hunter's annual mystery quilt at the end of 2020? If so, you are not alone! Somewhere I read that 77,000 quilters world wide were working on her *Grassy Creek Mystery* which started on Black Friday and continued into January. Every Friday, another clue would set off a frenzy of cutting, sewing, trimming, and counting pieces that eventually were put together into Bonnie's characteristically scrappy, colorful design. People posted photos of their fabric choices and progress on the Facebook Quiltville Open Studio page.

This was my third Bonnie Hunter mystery, and I am pleased with the result. She gave us fabric requirements and suggested colors for the finished quilt which measures around 94" x 94". This year's clues came at what she termed a "normal" pace; previous years included some complicated clues that seemed to come fast and furious at times. I was glad not to be working so hard because I had some other projects (Christmas!) to finish up in between.

Bonnie says that she holds the mystery during the holiday season so that people who have no families nearby or who live alone will have some camaraderie at a time that is very focused on family/friends. I have lived far from family all of my adult life, so I enjoy the distraction the mystery offers. The mystery is free to all during the time it runs; later, the pattern becomes available for sale on Bonnie's website, www.quiltville.com. Busy people and those waiting to see the final quilt before committing can print out the clues as they are announced so they can make the quilt later. There is a Facebook group, Quiltville Open Studio, to share photos and ask questions. Everyone is very helpful.



I used to say that I hate mystery quilts because I never like the finished product. But I have come to love Bonnie's *Roll, Roll, Cotton Boll* that I did in Christmas fabrics. It brightens our living room every winter. I wasn't wild about her Chinese-inspired *Good Fortune* because of the colors, so I gave it away. I enjoyed working on *Grassy Creek* because I diverged from Bonnie's fall color palette and used medium blue, bright green, deep purple, and pink instead.

If you're looking for something a little less intense but still involving quilters from around the world, why not join a Block of the Month or a Quilt Along? This year, our Heart of Vermont guild's block of the month has a monthly lottery, and we each mail a 6" block to that month's winner. There are many BOM projects available from quilt shops, fabric companies, and bloggers online. There are Facebook user groups for some, too. Many businesses charge a fee, but here are a few freebies to investigate:

- ◆ Barbara Brackman's 2021 block of the month is called *Hands All Around: Alcotts at War* - www.civilwarquilts.blogspot.com
- ◆ Abigail Dolinger's *Options BOM* - www.abquilts.wordpress.com.
- ◆ Kim Lapacek of Persimmon Dreams *Old School Mystery* - <http://www.kimlapacek.com>.
- ◆ Jacquelynn Steves *My Hometown* - <http://www.jacquelynnsteves.com>.
- ◆ A more modern take on blocks with videos and links to other bloggers' BOMs - <http://patternsbyjen.blogspot.com>

If you're feeling overwhelmed by a burgeoning stash, you might also want to consider joining the Rainbow Scrap Challenge. Every month, Angela, a blogger, chooses a different color and encourages you to make whatever blocks you'd like using that color. I usually pick a favorite block and make at least two each month using scraps in that month's color. If I don't like the color, I pick another one that is out of control in my stash.

Find out more at <https://superscrappy.blogspot.com>, and click on RSC2021. At right is my RSC20 quilt. This year I'm making 8" *Pop Stars* blocks from the Missouri Star Quilts site and also 6" *Pineapple* blocks for two different quilts in various colors. Obviously, my stash of scraps really needs taming!



Memorial Quilts

by Sandy Wilmot



What do you do when someone asks you to make a memorial quilt out of the clothes of a deceased loved one? You have to say yes, don't you? Well, 'no' isn't a big part of my vocabulary, so let me share with you some of the things I've learned.

There are 3 major obstacles, at least in my experience. First, the fabrics will not be your favored 100% cotton quilting fabric. They may be polyester blouses, corduroy pants, tee shirts and dresses. Then, you won't have all the color variation you'd hope for when designing a quilt. If they are all focus fabrics it just doesn't work. And finally, the pressure to make something equal to the person you are memorializing may leave you paralyzed. Take a deep breath.

My experience has been in making quilts that people intend to use for warmth. So providing structure to unusual fabrics has been important. I've used muslin to support flimsy fabric, and have read about using a thin iron on interfacing, which I'm definitely going to use next time. I start by cutting out all the seams, saving buttons and lace for a future crazy quilt (someday!), saving zippers for my sewing stash, and then I can see how much fabric is available to use.

At first I didn't think to add my own fabric to supplement the clothes, but since I decided this is okay to do, designing has become much easier. I still use the clothes as focus fabric, but I think creating a keepsake quilt is as important as one entirely from the person's clothes. Make it special.

The first time I made a memorial quilt, my 40 year old cousin had passed away, leaving behind many children spanning in age from 3 to 21. Her husband wanted to use her clothes to create baby quilts that could be given to his grandchildren in the future. I made 3 of these baby quilts, and waited for the day they might be needed. I'll never forget the joy it brought the expecting mother to see clothes from her mother as part of the baby quilt. That's when I knew that these requests for memorial quilts would be something I would always say yes to.

Wonderful Surprises Abound

by Robin Mascitti

I have been joyously sewing steadily since mid-October when I began a quilt for our newest grand-baby. His parents had chosen a woodland theme for the nursery. His mother selected a fabric from Spoonflower with forest animals in October and the search for ideas began. The animals in the fabric were printed individually, which really called for fussy cutting. My starting point was found in *Rotary Magic* by Nancy Johnson-Srebro.



I tend to build my designs one step at a time with no specific plan for the finished quilt. I really enjoy the design process and am often wonderfully surprised how a quilt comes together. This was the case with this quilt. As is often the case, as the design grew, there were considerations and challenges. When I added the large green triangles, I was concerned about how I would quilt these large spaces but the space easily lent itself to large quilted triangles which represent mountains. Designing the borders was a challenge as most of the fabrics surrounding the animals came from my scrap collection. My choices of yardage for the borders were few and even those were in short supply. The

need to work with smaller pieces of fabric resulted in the breaking up the border fabric with more of the Spoonflower fabric. And, voila, I had a design which I loved!

The quilt is both machine-quilted and hand-quilted. Throughout the design process I searched for a way to include their first son, Cayden, who was born in 2017 and lived only 14 days. When I got to the very last step it came to me: The top and bottom borders have five interlocking hearts, three small hearts between two larger hearts. These hearts represent their family: Dad, Emily (Dad's daughter), Cayden, Kaleb and Mom.



Currently, I am working on a personalized towel for our 4-year-old grandson, Blake. The photo is of the applique which will be sewn to the towel. (I include a photo of previous towel creation to show the finished product.)

My older son is getting married in October 2022 ...
hmm ...



Happy sewing,
Robin

Happy Valentine's Day

by Sue Schoolcraft

I made this wall hanging in 1988 of a log cabin heart pattern.

My Valentine's Day to All!!



Crypto Challenge

Solve the code to discover words related to **Celebrations**. Each number corresponds to a letter. Hint: A = 6

Sue Schoolcraft

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| A | 16 | 6 | 10 | 10 | 12 | | 9 | 14 | 3 | | 12 | 14 | 6 | 7 | |
| B | 20 | 6 | 2 | 14 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 14 | 8 | | 13 | 6 | 12 | |
| C | 8 | 4 | | 10 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 18 | 11 | 8 | | 13 | 6 | 12 |
| D | 19 | 7 | 15 | 17 | 9 | 13 | 16 | 15 | 19 | | 13 | 6 | 12 | | |
| E | 6 | 10 | 7 | 5 | 2 | | 26 | 15 | 15 | 2 | 8 | | 13 | 6 | 12 |

Answers on page 8.



GMQG Summer 2020 Quilt Challenge

by Tess Greaves

Remember the summer quilt challenge we announced in the Summer 2020 GMQG Newsletter? I recently tried it out by creating a baby quilt using a focus fabric called "Hide and Seek". This adorable print features several forest friends...skunks and foxes and bears, oh my! I raided my scrap bins for the coordinating fabrics and used long, narrow strips for the side borders and the focus fabric for the top and bottom. I used medium loft wool batting and backed it in soft flannel. The quilting is minimal to give a cuddly feel (and because I'm really bad at quilting).

As advertised, it was a fun project!



GMQG TREASURER'S REPORT

Robin Mascitti

| GMQG Financial Summary - August 31, 2019 to December 31, 2020 | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Checking | | | | | | |
| | Starting Balance | | Total Deposits | Total Expenditures | Ending Balance | |
| 2019 | 8/31/2019 | \$ 2,145.96 | \$ 352.00 | \$ 522.85 | 12/31/2019 | \$ 1,975.11 |
| 2020 | 1/1/2020 | \$ 1,975.11 | \$ 115.00 | \$ 301.88 | 12/31/2020 | \$ 1,788.23 |
| Savings | | | | | | |
| | Starting Balance | | Total Interest | | Ending Balance | |
| 2019 | 8/31/2019 | \$ 2,007.39 | \$ 0.34 | | 12/31/2019 | \$ 2,007.73 |
| 2020 | 1/1/2020 | \$ 2,007.73 | \$ 0.71 | | 12/31/2020 | \$ 2,008.44 |

| Green Mountain Quilters Guild | | | | Notes |
|--|-----------|-----------|--------------------|---|
| Transactions Post October 2019 Guild Meeting | | | | |
| | Payments | Deposits | | |
| August 31, 2019 balance | | | \$ 2,145.96 | |
| September (payments) | \$ 72.85 | | \$ 2,073.11 | Newsletter printing & postage |
| September (deposits) | | \$ 15.00 | \$ 2,088.11 | Member dues |
| October (payments) | \$ 200.00 | | \$ 1,888.11 | Historical Soc, hall rent; Cash start up; |
| October (deposits) | | \$ 237.00 | \$ 2,125.11 | Meeting revenue: dues, raffle, etc |
| October (deposits) | | \$ 100.00 | \$ 2,225.11 | Cash start up redeposited |
| November | | | \$ 2,225.11 | |
| December | \$ 250.00 | | \$ 1,975.11 | Presenter stipends: Leister & Wigg; |
| 2020 | | | | |
| January | | \$ 30.00 | \$ 2,005.11 | |
| February | | | \$ 2,005.11 | |
| March (payment) | \$ 150.00 | | \$ 1,855.11 | Barre Historical Society, hall rent |
| March (deposit) | | \$ 85.00 | \$ 1,940.11 | Member dues |
| April | | | \$ 1,940.11 | |
| May | | | \$ 1,940.11 | |
| June | | | \$ 1,940.11 | |
| July | | | \$ 1,940.11 | |
| August | \$ 67.73 | | \$ 1,872.38 | Newsletter printing & postage |
| September | | | \$ 1,872.38 | |
| October | | | \$ 1,872.38 | |
| November | \$ 84.15 | | \$ 1,788.23 | Newsletter printing & postage |
| December | | | \$ 1,788.23 | |
| 2021 | | | | |
| January 1, 2021 balance | | | \$ 1,788.23 | |

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: greenmountainquiltersguild.wordpress.com (current) |
| greenmountainquiltersguild.com (coming soon) |
| Join us on FACEBOOK! https://www.facebook.com/groups/1678830182330328/ |
| Contact any GMQG Board Member by email at: greenmountainquiltersguild@gmail.com |

MEMBERSHIP

We are not charging dues for 2020. If you paid dues last spring and your payment was processed, your membership will include the 2021-22 year. If your payment was not processed, it will be returned to you.

IF we meet during 2021 (and we hope to know more by our April newsletter), we will discuss dues during our next business meeting. Stay tuned! *Jan Sherman*

Answers to Crypto Challenge

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



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