



January/ February 2025 Newsletter

Dear Members,

Happy New Year!

The year ahead is filled with wonderful activities for the guild. We begin with celebrating the guild's 44th anniversary with a "tricky tray" fundraiser, spring workshops with unique techniques, June's Strawberry supper and the 2025 Quilt show October 18th & 19th.

The guild needs everyone to support and participate in these events to be successful and fun!

Please join me in making a few resolutions for this year.

- I resolve to volunteer to help with a quilt show committee
- I resolve to donate at least one item for the Quilt Show boutique and/or Little Wishes.
- I resolve to meet someone new in the guild.
- I resolve to finish at least one UFO this year.
- I resolve to clean my sewing room space. (Do you have items for Drop & Shop?)
- I resolve to try something new. Perhaps a workshop.
- I resolve to participate in the Challenge Project. (details listed on GSQG website)

During this cold winter, enjoy the warmth that quilting and the friendship of the guild has brought you.

Best Wishes for a healthy, happy and productive 2025!

Christine

General Guild Notes

Membership: We are happy to announce *Janet Greak* is the winner of the members drawing. Anyone who paid their membership by the deadline was eligible to win \$20 in tickets for our January birthday celebration.

Please continue to wear your name badge at all meetings. If you have forgotten your badge please let us know and we can provide a temporary one. A reminder that this year we do not have a password on the back of our name tag to access the "Members Only" portion of our website. The password is the one set up when you registered thru the new on-line registration. If you have forgotten your password or do not know it, you may easily reset it. On our Garden State Quilters Guild website at the top right corner is the log-in. Click this, enter your email and follow the "forgot password" process.

Any questions regarding membership, please contact Lori Darnulc or Jan Martin (jmartinnj@comcast.net). **General meetings** are **in person** at Grace Church, unless otherwise noted on the website. Dates are listed on page 11. From 6:45 – 7:15 pm is the time to chat with other members, visit each of our tables (membership, programs, quilt show, library, Sunshine, etc.) and to go to Drop and Shop. **Meetings will start promptly at 7:15 pm.** **Board meetings** are also in person two weeks prior to the general meeting, unless noted beforehand. Please let us know if you will attend so we can give you meeting information in advance. Dates are listed on page 11.

Our President, Christine Courtney, will hold on to any item left at the GSQG meeting. She will bring it to the next meeting, or you can contact her to arrange a pickup. Christine's email is: ccourtney1717@gmail.com, or you can reach her on her cell phone at 201-841-7036.

The Friendship Quilt: This year's Friendship Quilt celebrates the United States as we head into a presidential election with the colors red, white, blue, and gold. We will be giving you the gold. You will need red, white, and blue 2.5 inch wide strips in shades similar to our flag. They do not need to be solid colors, but they should read as sort of a solid color. The block is based on a Bento Box pattern, but put together in a different arrangement. There will be sample blocks and instructions at the first meeting. If you have extra fabric, please bring it to the swap with others.

Drop and Shop: Drop and Shop will be open every month **except January for our annual January birthday Basket celebration.** Clean out your quilting room , storage bins, closets and bring fabric, quilting tools, books, thread, patterns etc. and drop them off at our table. We have such a wide selection of items, you are bound to find what you were looking for. Then fill up your own bag with quilt goodies for \$10. The price increase reflects our commitment to contribute to GSQ's financial health.



Fabric Raffle: With the fabric raffle such a success last year, we're continuing it at each membership meeting. We had some incredible fabric bundles that were raffled last year. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. There will be **NO** fabric raffle at the January meeting, but it will resume again in February.

Hospitality: Hospitality has gone back to what was done pre-pandemic. Members with last names beginning with A-M, then N-Z, are asked to bring a food item to share for alternating months. Members are asked to bring their own beverage to the meeting. Listed on page 11 are the general meeting dates which members are asked to bring something to share according to the first letter of your last name.

Library: The GSQG library is open most meetings, and as always reach out to Laura Wagner (lajawagner@gmail.com) with any requests or suggestions of books you think the guild ought to own. The listing of books that are currently owned by the guild is in our Member's Only section on the website.

Newsletter: As in past years, we run a newsletter every 2 months and anyone in the guild may contribute (see “Member News” section that is usually in the newsletter near the end of the document). We ask that contributions be sent to Cindy Koziol-White at cynthiakoziol27@hotmail.com. The schedule for submission of information is listed below:

Newsletter	Information Submission Date
March-April 2025	February 15, 2025
May-June 2025	April 15, 2025

Razzle Dazzle: Bring a fat quarter (FQ – 18” x 22”) to each meeting according to the schedule below and get a ticket for each FQ that you bring towards the drawing to win all the fat quarters brought in that night. In the past, there were meetings where we had so many participants that we were able to have 2 fat quarter bundle winners! There is **no January Razzle Dazzle**, so please hold your contributions until the February meeting where drawings for both Razzle Dazzle themes will be done.

Razzle Dazzle Schedule for 2024-2025	
January	Black and White
February	Hearts
March	Words
April	Plaids
May	Neutrals
June	Nature

Garden State Quilt Challenge 2024-2025

In keeping with our president's goal of fostering community by getting to know each other better, this year's challenges are designed to encourage sharing something about ourselves with other members of the guild. Use this challenge as both an opportunity to introduce yourself to us and as a form of self-reflection. At our challenge Show and Tell meeting, you will explain how your project offers a glimpse into who you are.

We have 2 opportunities for you to share:

- **February meeting (for early birds and over-achievers).**
- May meeting (for the rest of us).

Challenge 1 – Selfie Sampler

Create a sampler of at least 4 blocks, each of which relates to an aspect of your life, your background, your interests, your family, your beliefs, your personality etc.

Examples: state block of your birth state; a block related to your birth month; a block highlighting your favorite color; a block related to your profession or hobby; a block depicting your pet. Make at least one block that will be a surprise even to those who know you.

Challenge 2 – Maker Mirror

Instead of a sampler, create a sewn project that reveals an aspect of your life and personality. It can be a single block, a table runner, a bag, an article of clothing, a wall hanging, a mug rug, etc. Again, dig deep and make this item a true mirror of you.

Quilt Show 2025

“Piece by Piece”

Please Save the Date for our Quilt Show, “Peace by Piece” on **October 18-19, 2025**. As you know, this is an “all-hands-on-deck” event that requires the talent and time of our members to be successful. Our last show was a wonderful display of our talents, as well as our camaraderie...let’s do it again!! We can’t wait to see what you submit to show off!

Please look for Quilt Show information at our General Meetings as we get underway with the countdown to the show...in the meanwhile...

LITTLE WISHES: We need small quilts no larger than 24” on one side and no smaller than 12” on any side to be raffled off during the show. This is an important fundraiser held during the show. Please reach out to Ginger Scott gingerscott503@gmail.com for any questions.

BOUTIQUE: We do not have any inventory for our Boutique! Items needed include quilts of all sizes; table runners and toppers; placemats and napkins; aprons; potholders and microwave bowl cozies; TOTES!; knit wearables; gift bags, wine bags, casserole carriers; pincushions and pillowcases; dolls and their clothes; stuffed toys; fabric bowls and baskets...phew! Lots of amazing options—please contact Nancy Myers joennancy@optonline.net or Grace Walsh gracesewsquilts@gmail.com for any Q’s.

VOLUNTEERING: Please consider helping out any of the QS committees if you have some time to spare. Help is needed during the week leading up to the show and of course during the event. Remember to ‘SAVE THE DATE’ and thank you for all you do to make Garden State Quilt Guild the amazing guild that it is!!

Marisa Austenberg & Blanca Peereboom

Programs

On **January 13, 2025**, the guild will hold its annual January Anniversary Fundraiser and a celebration of the new year! We look forward to seeing you there!



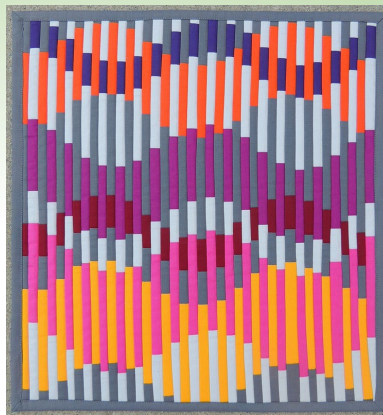
At the **February 10** general meeting, we will be having a Super Show and Tell where members that have completed their challenge quilt can show off their work and other members can show off multiple quilts! We will also have members teaching members various quilting skills.

At our **March 10** meeting, the guild will host Karen Fricke (<https://karenfrickequilts.com/>). She will be giving a Stitch a Sketch lecture about how to turn a picture into a sketch with free motion embroidery. Karen is an art quilter who uses a variety of techniques to create dynamic images on fabric. On **March 17** from 4-7 pm at Sew Jersey, Karen will be teaching guild members at a workshop entitled “ Thread Sketching on a Photograph: Sewing Notions Bag”.

Karen developed this technique as a way to create a pen-and-ink style sketch using thread. She’s written about threadsketching for Quilting Arts Magazine, and also demonstrated the technique on an episode of Quilting Arts TV. It’s simpler than it looks! Her lecture will showcase how she uses it on quilts, and the workshop will teach you how to do it! Come join us for the fun at her workshop!



On **April 14**, Mel Beach (<https://melbeachquilts.com/>) will speak about “Let’s get rolling on your creativity goals”. She will then teach a workshop over zoom called Intriguing Interleaving on **April 19** from 11 am – 3 pm, and a follow-up zoom session on **April 23** from 7-9 pm for a final recap and a Show and Tell.



On **May 12** at the general guild meeting, we will have the wrap up of this year’s Challenge Quilt as part of another super Show and Tell. Please bring your completed quilts as a part of the fun!

On **June 9** will be our annual Strawberry Supper. We will do it as a potluck dinner as we’ve done in years past, and will announce which parts of the alphabet can bring appetizers/salads, main dishes, or desserts as it gets closer to the meeting date.

All lectures and workshop dates are listed in the events calendar on page 11. Please see/contact Carol Mann (cmannconso@yahoo.com) with any questions, need further information, or would like to suggest lecturers, workshops, etc for later this year or next year. We would love member input!

Sunshine

A big THANK YOU to all who participated in our December Sit N Sew!

70 Heart pillows were completed at the meeting and then delivered mid-December to the Mental Health Center. In addition, 66 Comfort pillows were stuffed and 35 of them sewn closed. Work will continue on these pillow projects at our monthly Bees. Our Bees are held at the Library of the Chathams, from 1PM – 4 PM. The next Bee dates are: Wednesday, January 22nd, Tuesday, February 18th and Tuesday, March 18th.

December quilt donations were made to Jersey Shore Medical Center, Morristown Memorial Hospital, Habitat for Humanity, and Morris View Nursing Home. Fourteen quilts were distributed at our December meeting to members who were then giving a quilt to someone in need of the special gift of comfort this holiday season.

Do you know someone who could use the comfort and warmth of a quilt? Winter is a tough time of year for many people. Please let our Sunshine committee know if you have a suggested place to donate quilts or if you know someone in need. Please send me an email at: jstubaus@optonline.net and I will be happy to get you quilts. Let's spread the warmth this winter!



Block of the Month

Greetings fellow Quilters!

Winter is almost upon us...snow this season?? Wishing you all the Happiest Holidays to spend with your loved ones and all your Wishes Come True in 2025!

January and February BOMs are posted on the website. **PLEASE NOTE** that January's Log Cabin block contains fabric that I handed out at the December meeting, which is required for this block. February is a giant Disappearing Four Patch...18-½"!! I will be getting the subsequent months finished by late January.

Worth a re-mention: I would really love a block with curves for this year, but I don't know how! Looking for a "BOM Featured Guest" to help with this one (and teach me how!). Thank you for participating in BOM! 📧 Marisa

Below are the January and February 2024 blocks of the month that are available for download at: <https://www.gardenstatequiltersguild.com/block-of-the-month>

Any archived BOMs will require members to log into the website with your email address and password used to create your member account.

January 2025 –
Log cabin



February 2025 -
Disappearing 4 Patch



Calendar of Events - 2024/2025 Guild Year

<u>DATE</u>	<u>Event</u>
January 6	Board Meeting – over zoom
January 13	Guild Meeting – January Anniversary Fundraiser!! Hospitality: Last names A-M
January 22	Sunshine Bee (Wednesday)
January 27	Board Meeting – over zoom
February 10	Guild Meeting – Members teaching members Hospitality: Last names N-Z
February 15	Newsletter deadline for March/April issue
February 18	Sunshine Bee (Tuesday)
February 24	Board Meeting – over zoom
March 10	Guild Meeting – Karen Fricke – Stitch a Sketch Lecture Hospitality: Last names A-M
March 17	Karen Fricke Workshop – Threadsketching on a Photograph: Sewing Notions Bag 4-7 pm at Sew Jersey
March 18	Sunshine Bee (Tuesday)
March 31	Board Meeting
April 14	Guild Meeting – Mel Beach Lecture – Let’s get rolling on your creativity goals! Hospitality: Last Names N-Z
April 15	Newsletter deadline for May/June issue
April 19	Intriguing Interleaving Workshop (over zoom – Saturday) 11 am – 3 pm
April 23	Intriguing Interleaving Workshop Follow-up (over zoom) 7 – 9 pm
April 28	Board Meeting
May 12	Guild Meeting – lecture TBA Hospitality: Last Names A-M
June 2	Board Meeting – Lundt Room
June 9	Guild Meeting – Strawberry Supper Hospitality: Last names will be assigned to appetizers/main course/desserts as we get closer to the event for potluck supper

Board Members

Executive Board (2024-2025) – 2 year appointment		Committee Positions (no term expiration)	
President	Christine Courtney	Library	Laura Wagner
Vice President	Ginger Scott	Raffle Quilt	Sue Adams, Ginger Scott, Sue Schmerler
Treasurer	Molly Adams	Block of the Month	Marisa Austenberg
Secretary	Sarah Holman	Fabric Raffle	Marisa Austenberg
Programs	Carol Mann & Mary Toscano	Friendship Quilt	Alix Martin Ria Wolff
Trustees			
Membership	Jan Martin & Lori Darnulc	Historian/ Show 'n Tell	TBD – Volunteer?
Nominating	Marisa Austenberg	Drop & Shop	Paula Raimondo & Sue Schmerler
Newsletter	Cindy Koziol-White	Razzle Dazzle	Sue Schmerler & Paula Raimondo
Sunshine	Jean Stubaus	January Party	Beth DiDomenico
Grants & Scholarship	Wannetta Phillips	Social Media	Cindy Koziol-White
Quilt Show	Marisa Austenberg, Blanca Peereboom	Quilt Challenge	Jackie Laba
Webmaster	Cathy Tyrell	Sunshine Committee	Pat Buikema, Emily Egerter, Mindy Mathisen, Liz Merson