

www.fvqi.org

Farmington Valley
Quilters Newsletter

January 2009

From the President

A New Year is here which means another whole year of quilting. I start most new years with a few resolutions. The resolutions that I don't put much detail or thought into are usually the ones I don't keep. One I have had for several years is to make at least two baby quilts for our neonatal project. If I set a specific goal that is reasonable, it is usually attainable. This month I made my first one all from my scraps. Please join me and make a resolution to make a baby quilt.

I am excited about our January meeting. We have a great speaker, Cathy Racine, from Charlton (MA) Sewing Center speaking about thread. I am sure we will learn more than we ever knew there was to

know about thread. In addition, we are honoring our past presidents. We will have some refreshments and as part of our business meeting, each past president will be recognized. Let's hope for no snow so that you can come to this fun and exciting meeting.

Susan Elliott



Monthly Meeting - Wednesday January 21st 6:45pm at Eno Memorial Hall

Cathy Racine will be our guest for our September meeting. She is the owner of The Charlton Sewing Center in Charlton, Massachusetts which is described as a full service "sewing sanctuary", complete with machines, fabric, notions, thread, classes, special events and the occasional organ concert! She has been involved with sewing and quilting for 30 years and will bring her expertise to us and discuss the multitude of threads available to us today and the best way to use them. Please join us.

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Snippets:

- This meeting begins at 6:45pm
- Quilts for Show and Tell
- FVQI Board meetings are scheduled the first Wednesday of every month and are open to all members.
- 2010 Raffle Quilt Blocks
- Neonatal quilts
- Library items

Next Month —February 18th



Service Projects

A working meeting where we contribute to the neo-natal and ABC quilt efforts as well as spend some quality time with our fellow quilters.

Upcoming —March 18th

In March we will have Sarah Ann Smith, a well-known quilter from Camden, Maine. She has taught internationally and nationally, most recently at the AQS show in Paducah. She has a contract for a book entitled Unraveling Threadwork, has had articles published in *Quilting Arts Magazine* and is a regular columnist for *Machine Quilting Unlimited*. On Wednesday, March 18th she will present a trunk show of her work. See the next page for information about her workshop on Thursday, March 19th.

Other March and April events

Retreat—March 6th—8th—see page 6 for details

The first of 2 spring workshops—March 19th—see the next page for more information about Sarah Ann Smith's workshop.

Mystery Night—Friday March 27th watch for more details.

April 16th workshop—see next page for details

April 25th—Saturday—Basting Day at Avon Library —This is our celebration of the annual quilting day which occurs in March.

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars now and plan on joining your fellow quilters to Lowell, Massachusetts on **Saturday, May 30, 2009**. We will be traveling by chartered bus to the **New England Quilt Museum** and the **American Textile History Museum**. Information regarding the deposit to hold your spot and all the specifics **will follow soon**. This trip will be partially funded by the Farmington Valley Quilters!

Workshop Refund Policy

Thirty (30) days prior to the workshop, no refunds will be made unless your slot can be filled by a person from the waitlist, first, or other FVQ member, second.

Guest Policy

There will be a \$5.00 Guest Fee for meetings with fee speakers and potluck dinners. Guests who join the guild that evening do not have to pay the guest fee.



March and April meetings and workshops—sign up now

Workshop On Thursday, March 19th from 10am until 4pm Sarah Ann Smith will give her workshop

“Postcards: An Introduction to Some New Techniques”

You can use any technique from traditional to art quilts on a postcard. We will use fusible web to begin two, four or more postcards each in class. I will demonstrate several art techniques which you may wish to try including painting on fabric, stamping on fabric, using Shiva Paintstiks, using Angelina fibers, couching yarns and more. There is a small kit fee for this class to cover the cost of materials I provide, (that way you don't have to spend considerably more on materials you might or might not use again). If you register for the workshop by December 31, the cost is \$35, the cost is \$40 for the month of January and \$50 after January 31,



In April we will have Judith Larzelere from Westerly, Rhode Island. She was trained as a painter at Rutgers University in New Jersey. There she learned to develop a love of color. Since 1978 she has been making quilts full-time.

Her images are abstract and non-geometric and do not rely on a block/grid structure. She is interested in color interaction and creating a sense of movement and mood in her works. She tends to like vivid, active color but has used all palettes for commissions to suit the client's needs. The technique she uses is machine strip piecing. She re-cuts the pieced fabric and then machine quilts it in a process sometimes called "flip and sew quilting." We will have a lecture entitled *Color, Color, Color on April 15th*.

On Thursday, April 16th Judith will present her *Strip Piecing Workshop* (short version): Students will be given a design formula for choosing fabrics that will be strip pieced and then sewn into a small wall hanging in the quilt-as-you-go method. Special emphasis will be on color selection. Be prepared to trade some of your fabric with others in the class to have more colors to work with.

Neonatal News

The nurses and families at the UConn Neonatal unit were thrilled with our November delivery of more than 80 quilts! Thank you to all who helped out this past year. As you plan your neonatal quilts for 2009, you can consider some alternative sizes. Continue to make quilts approximately **24" by 36"** (the previous size recommendation) or choose a slightly larger quilt size of approximately **36" square** or **36" by 40"**. The nurses shared with us on our visit, that the larger quilts are a bit more versatile and can be used to cover the babies' isolettes more effectively, helping to block out extra light and noise. Please remember that these are approximate sizes only, to use as a guideline in planning your quilts.

All quilts, small or larger are greatly appreciated !

SUNSHINE

We are saddened for Merry Smith who has lost her husband Douglas. Our sincere sympathies were sent.

So many members have remarked about how nice it was to receive our cards. Let me know if you hear any member who is ill or suffered a loss. It is appreciated. You can contact Pat Hersl or any board member.

QUILT CHALLENGE 2009

Get ready, it's not a fabric, it's not a block, nor is it a theme. But it will be a challenge for many. It's appliqué your way. Pick any method of appliqué you like. It can be needle turn, reverse appliqué, machine or hand, fusible, your choice.

If you've been thinking that one of these days you'd try this technique just jump right in. Nothing scary about it and nothing to buy.
(We know how much fabric you have)

Your entry in the Challenge 2009 can include pieced blocks. The appliqué should be the featured element of your project. It can be any size you like, from mini to maxi.

The Quilt Challenge quilts are presented at the June Social meeting where they will be greeted with oohs and ahhs by all. Oh, and then there's the Ribbons, Viewers Choice, Best Quilting....and many more.

Don't miss the fun. Get started, you only have six months!

Bonnie Llopis and Judy Prohaska

**2008-2009
FVQI Board**

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Susan Elliott

**First Vice
President**
Laurie Rio

**Second Vice
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Judy Ross
Meg Lines

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Sue Trimble

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Betty Warner

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Zana Tauro
Connie Rowles

2010 Quilt Show
Paulette Young
Sandy Kingsley

Wondering About Bees?



Now That the holiday season is gone, and we settle into a "long winter's night," we want to encourage all members, old and new, to consider joining one of our quilting "Bees." Why should you join a Bee? So many good reasons: Here are five of them:

1. Get to know your quilting buddies a little better.
2. Take advantage of others' experience--a learning opportunity--for free!
3. Block out some time to concentrate on a quilting project, and visit with others doing the same thing.
4. Keep up, first hand, with the projects and programs of the guild by listening to others' comments.
5. Take part in special projects for the Guild--of your own choosing.

At present, we have three active Bees. They are:

Wednesday night Bee--(called Wednesday Night Stitchers) meets monthly. Susan Elliot is the organizer (Queen Bee.)

Thursday night Bee--Meets monthly. Lynn Emery is the organizer (Queen Bee)

Wednesday morning Bee --meets twice monthly. Aurelle Locke is the organizer (Queen Bee)

Since there is a limit as to how many of us can crowd around one table, we must limit the number of regular participants to 10-15 members. If the Bees are full, we will organize new ones, and the long-time Bee members will support the new Bees until they get established. This activity really keeps us involved in our quilting hobby. We hope you will join us. If you would like to BEE involved, please call:

Jane Hadley Phone: 860 408 1559, e-mail: janefacts@hotmail.com

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All quilts, small or larger are greatly appreciated !

Member Ads:

You're invited! Sew Inspired Quilt Shop cordially invites you to an Open Studio event Sunday, Jan. 25th from Noon-4pm, to tour our new classroom and studio space in the lower level of Fiddler's Green. Celebrate our expansion and learn more about studio services available to you!

If you would like an ad in this section, contact Betty Warner. Members may place a three line ad 3 times per year at no charge.

Upcoming Quilt Shows and Events

"Who Was Anna Tuels? Quilt Stories 1750-1900" (8/30-1/25/09)

Wadsworth Atheneum
600 Main Street
Hartford, CT
860-278-2670

www.wadsworthatheneum.org

"Recycling and Resourcefulness: Quilts of the 1930s" (10/21-3/15/09)

**American Folk Art Museum
New York, NY**

<http://www.folkartmuseum.org>

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival XX

February 26 – March 1, 2009

Hampton Roads Convention Center
Greater Chesapeake Bay / Williamsburg Area
Hampton, VA

The Quilt Fest of New Jersey V

March 5 – 8, 2009

Garden State Exhibit Center
Somerset, NJ

Machine Quilters Exposition

April 13-18, 2009, The Center of NH/Radisson Hotel
700 Elm Street, Manchester, New Hampshire
Classes from April 13 - April 18
Quilt Show open to the public Thursday, April 16, 10-6;
Friday, April 17, 9-6 and Saturday, April 18, 9-5

"Interfaith Sewing Service Group Quilt Show"

June 27-28, 2009

www.fccwillimantic.org

This event will take place at the First Congregational Church of Willimantic and will include vendors, a quilt drawing, crafts, and professional quilt appraisals by appointment. For entry forms & information contact Linda Gardner 860-429-7995 or on the website www.fccwillimantic.org

URBAN INSPIRATIONS 2009 QUILT SHOW
AT FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
SEVENTH AVENUE AT 28TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY
SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MARCH 21 & 22, 2009
(more info to come next month)

"Mixed Media Fiber Art"

January 7—March 1, 2009

Danforth Museum of Art

123 Union Avenue

Framingham, MA

508-620-0050

www.danforthmuseum.org/exhibits.html

Also

"Faith Ringgold : Story Quilts"

on exhibit through March 1, 2009



3rd FVQI Retreat—Bayside Resort
Arrive Friday March 6, 2009—Leave Sunday March 8, 2009

The guild has had 2 wonderful retreats at the Bayside Resort in West Yarmouth, MA. Many are planning to attend again this coming year for another great time.

DATES: The weekend is March 6, 7, & 8th at the Bayside Resort in West Yarmouth, MA. We have the function room from noon on Friday through 3 PM on Sunday.

EATING & FOOD: Most folks brought food to eat or snack on and something to share with the group (this is optional.) Some brought soups, etc. for lunch, and almost everyone went out for dinner (great restaurants, food, and conversation.) The rate includes a great continental breakfast (waffles, too!); no one went out for breakfast last year.

Each room has a refrigerator and there are microwaves for use in the break room.

QUILTING: Quilting went on from 7 AM or so until about 10 or 11 PM. We left our machines set up and all supplies in the function room from Friday on as we could lock the door. Everyone commented that the function room was extremely well lit. They will provide tables, irons, ironing boards, and plenty of outlets.

SHOPPING: There were 3 quilt shops within close proximity, and everyone went quilt shopping and some shopped at other stores, too.

FUN: We had a great time and got to admire each others projects. Some brought one project and worked on it the whole time, others worked on several different ones. The whole time is unstructured. There are no door prizes, group projects, or teaching sessions. Everyone is willing to help if you get in a bind. We all liked just being with quilters, getting stuff done, shopping at new shops, and socializing. Non-guild members are welcome.

ROOM S RATES: The room rate per person is \$79.95 + tax for 2 nights double occupancy. One person from each double should call and make the reservation for the two nights. When you check in they will charge each of you the \$79.95 so the total is \$79.95 a day. If you want a single room, the rate is \$79.95 per day or \$159.90 for the 2 nights.

If you would like to come and don't have someone to share the room with, please contact me and I will try to match people up.

RESERVATIONS: The motel is holding a block of 10 rooms for us at the above rates until Feb. 6. You must call 1-800-243-1114 to guarantee your room and mention to the reservationist you are reserving a room at the special rate blocked for "Farmington Valley Quilters".

Cancellations: Must be made 72 hrs. prior to your scheduled arrival or a one night cancellation fee will be charged. Non-arrivals will be charged a one night cancellation fee, and the reservation will be cancelled.

Please let me know after you (and your roommate) have made a reservation. If there is more interest I can try to arrange for more rooms.

(go to the next page for more info)

More on the retreat

TRAVEL:

Bayside Resort Hotel, 225 Route 28, West Yarmouth, MA 02673

1.800.243.1114, or 508.775.5669

Website www.baysideresort.com

It is about a 3 hour ride. Some of us went early and others came after work, or even Saturday morning. It would be best if you could arrange car pools.

CONTACT: Call or email me if you have any questions: Karen Hines, 651.3640, chines9@cox.net.

Quilt Show Wrap Up

You can check it off your list for 2008, start getting ready for 2010

2010 Raffle Quilt— from Pat Hersl

I am still working on getting the final pieces ready for distribution. Obviously, I can use some help. If anyone would like to come to my house for a few hours of reorganizing and packaging, I would be most appreciative.

I hope the weather allows us too have our meeting. Please catch me there, or phone me any time.

Thanks so much.

Pat Hersl

860-673-4899 - home

860-529-8229 - cell

SNOW BLOSSOMS FRIENDSHIP BLOCK

January, February, March - Drawing in March

DIRECTIONS for one flower (1/2 a block, 6 1/2" x 12 1/2"). Two flowers sewn together equal 12-1/2" x 12-1/2" block.

MATERIALS: Use scraps

- Color A – white (background)
- Color B – green (leaves/stem)
- Color C – flower petals
- Color D – flower center

CUTTING:

- Color A (white)- Cut (3) strips, 2 1/2" wide x aprox. 6"
Cut (2) squares, 2- 7/8" x 2-7/8"
- Color B (green) – Cut (3) strips, 2-1/2" x aprox. 6"
Cut (2) squares, 2-7/8" x 2-7/8"
- Color C (flower petals) – Cut (4) squares, 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"
Cut (2) squares, 2-7/8" x 2-7/8"
- Color D (flower center) – Cut (1) square, 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"

DIRECTIONS:

1 - Sew together (2) A strips (white) and (1) B strip (green), right sides together, as shown in Figure 1. Press toward dark.

Subcut into (2) 2-1/2" segments.

2 - Sew together (2) B strips (green) and (1) A strip (white), right sides together, as shown in Figure 2. Press toward dark.

Subcut into (2) 2-1/2" segments.

3 – Sew together segments as shown in picture to form leaves/ stem block.

4 – Pair (2) A squares (white), 2-7/8" x 2-7/8" with (2) C squares (flower), 2-7/8" x 2-7/8", right sides together.

Draw diagonal line from one corner to the other on each pair of squares.

Stitch 1/4" seam along both sides of diagonals.

Cut apart on diagonal lines to form (4) 1/2 square triangles. Press toward dark. (Figure 3)

5 – Stitch flower and center squares together, row by row as in flower picture above. Stitch rows together to form flower block.

6 – Stitch stem/leaf block to flower block to complete one flower, 6-1/2" x 12-1/2".

Have fun! Stitch as many flowers as you like and they will be combined by the lucky winner into a lovely quilt. **Drawing will take place at the March guild meeting.** Bring in your blocks, Label each one with your name and telephone number. These labels will be used for the drawing.

Questions?

Please call Pat Leslie, 677-4611 or Meredith Hurst, 658-4802.

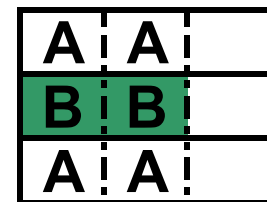
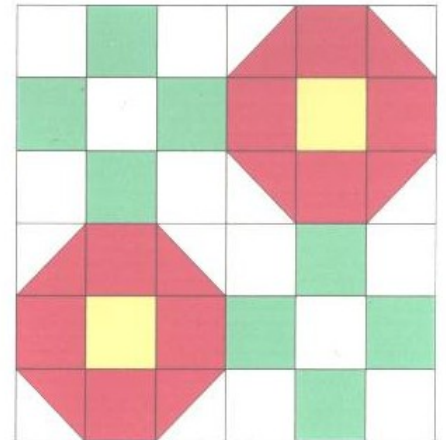


Figure 1

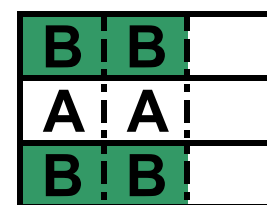


Figure 2

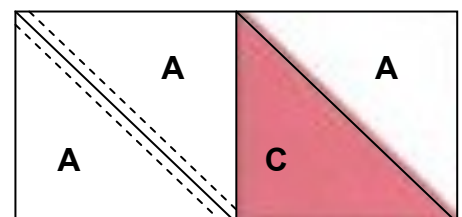


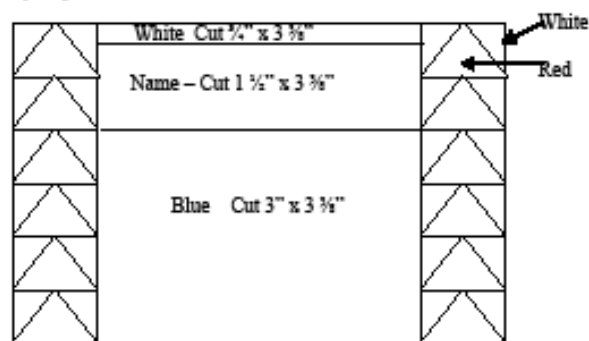
Figure 3

Farmington Valley Quilters Name Badge

Note: I was working with a $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{3}{4}''$ pre-printed fabric strip with my name. Without that, all dimensions can be changed according to designer's will. My badge is 5 geese high. 6 geese would allow more room for pins.

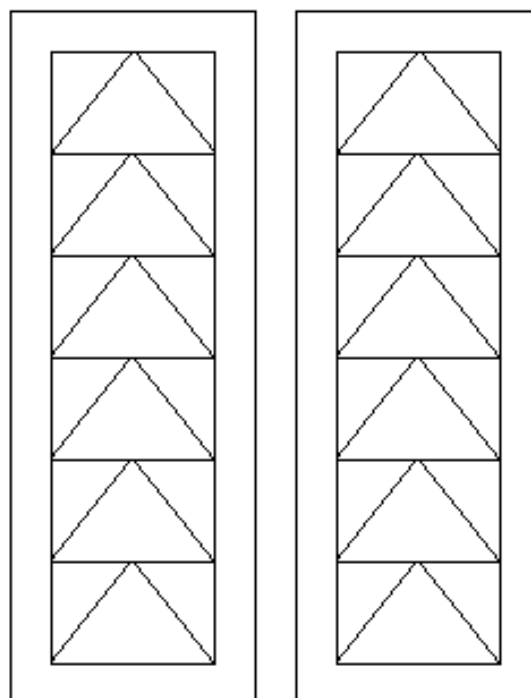
Directions:

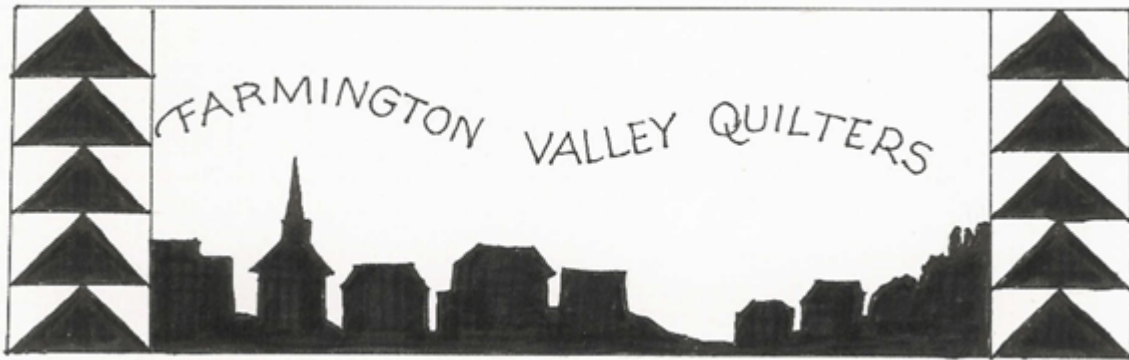
1. Paper piece 2 sets of flying geese units. Geese are red, sky is white.
2. If you are not working with a preprinted name piece, disregard the top indicated and use a piece cut $1\frac{1}{4}'' \times 3\frac{3}{4}''$.
3. Add top piece to name piece.
4. Add bottom piece under name piece.
5. Put flying geese units on the sides.
6. Cut a backing $4\frac{1}{4}'' \times 5\frac{3}{4}''$. Place back to front, right sides together. Begin stitching $1''$ from bottom corner and stitch around all 4 corners, leaving a gap at the bottom edge. Turn and poke the corners. Slip stitch bottom closed.
7. Add a pin for wearing about $\frac{1}{2}''$ from the top.
8. Decorate with you pins.



Paper piece 2 sets of Geese

$1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{4}''$ - unfinished size





Farmington Valley Quilters, Inc.
P O Box 172
Weatogue, CT 06089

Meetings typically held at Eno Memorial Hall
On
Hopmeadow Street
In
Simsbury, CT

For more information go to
www.fvqi.org