



# Seacoast Modern Quilt Guild

DISCOVER THE FUN OF MODERN QUILTING

*April 2024 Newsletter*

*Spring is here and we are all looking forward to enjoying the beauty of New England. Inspiration is everywhere for you to draw upon. Soon we will be able to open our windows, listen to the birds singing.*

## Retreat Wrap Up

Retreat 2024 was a success. Many thanks go out to the Retreat Committee: Susan Hadyniak, Karen Kenney, Kelly Patrick, Brenda Scolaro from the Retreat Chair (and guild president) Joyce Hoelzer. 19 attendees enjoyed dedicated quilting time, a huge variety of food and baked goodies, quilting tips and tricks, and friendship. Swag bags were provided for each attendee by Seacoast Sewing & Fabric in Portsmouth, door prizes and raffle baskets were donated from a variety of area vendors and guild members. Wendy Ward will be able to provide a final tally of the amount raised from the raffle baskets. This money is to create the retreat item line in the 2025 guild budget. And best of all, two of the guests joined the guild!

The Retreat Committee is already planning the 2025 retreat. We are seeking a different venue as the Franciscan Guesthouse's future is currently in flux. While we have the weekend of April 24 – 27, 2025 reserved, the FC, the office there has advised us that we cannot rely on the Guesthouse being open then. Suggestions of alternate retreat sites are sought from the membership.



## April Meeting Follow-up:

Our April meeting program, *Color for Quilters*, presented by one of our new members, Holly Read, was well received. Susan Hadyniak found this YouTube explaining how to use Joen Wolfram's "3 in 1 Tool". Susan said it was very helpful and recommends watching it. <https://youtu.be/EGRZ1bhB-9M?si=UspdEAYpBWj5r-88>



## May Meeting News:



In anticipation of our **May meeting and sew-in**, the Community Outreach committee will also be presenting at the April meeting. The sew-in is to make quilts for donation to the guild's 2024 designated recipient, Crossroads, a shelter for seacoast homeless. Crossroads provides overnight shelter, food, clothing, rehabilitation services, job counseling, and more. All size blankets are welcome, but twin size is in the most demand. The sew-in will be **Saturday, May 4** at the Portsmouth Public Library, Levenson Room, 175 Parrott Avenue, Portsmouth NH, 10:30am – 4:30pm. The Community Outreach committee is planning this event and will be emailing full details. Chairperson: Brenda Scolaro, Co-Chairperson: Karen Kenney

### *The Pizza Box Mystery Round Robin is Here!*

Your program committee was delighted to introduce a new year of fun to all of our members with the Pizza Box challenge. This ongoing event is suitable for beginners and experienced quilters alike. Guidelines were presented at the April meeting and pizza boxes distributed. You get to select the fabrics, create the design, and you piece it. You control how challenging your design will be!



So how does this work? What is the goal? Are there strict deadlines? And where is the fun?!?

1. Say yes to participating! (The Programs committee will be supplying lots of laughs and assistance to those who ask....)
2. You will have plenty of time to get your parts done. (We have a backup plan for participants whose lives throw them curve balls. No quilter will be left behind!)
3. The goal is to create a medallion style quilt top while practicing or trying new quilting skills. The tops, when completed, will be throw size.
4. The fun starts when you make the center block (details demonstrated and handout supplied at the April meeting). In your pizza box, you return your block, and some fabric that complements it to the next meeting. The boxes will remain closed at the meeting (no peeking allowed! The mystery begins!).
5. At every meeting there will be a demonstration of ideas and techniques and a handout with the guidelines for the next border. As the borders increase in size, more time will be given to complete a border.
6. You will take home a different Pizza Box each time! You complete the assignment, add some fabric and return it at the next meeting.
7. Repeat step #6 until the tops are done.
8. At the end, all the tops will be displayed and returned to the person who made the center block!

### January 2024 Meeting Follow-up:

Two member programs were announced at the January meeting: Novice Classes and a Mentor Program. These are still available, but we need volunteers to coordinate and teachers/mentors for each program. Once these volunteers are in place, we will send/post an electronic sign up for the “students” to register for each program. For further information and to volunteer, contact Joyce Hoelzer. Email: [jbusacct@gmail.com](mailto:jbusacct@gmail.com) Phone: 603-834-9779

### SMQG is Seeking...



A guild cannot operate on membership dues alone. Fundraising is essential. The guild is seeking a committee, not just one person, to suggest, develop, and manage fundraising activities. One or two people are needed to chair the committee. Current ideas range from a simple monthly 50-50 raffle and Lottery Blocks (already in place and managed by Diane Sheckells) to a raffle quilt. Other suggestions include applying for grant requests and registering for the New Hampshire Gives campaign sponsored by NHPBS. Fundraising is to both our own members and to the community at large. Please consider offering your enthusiasm and creativity to this much needed part of every guild.

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## Mark Your Calendars

### SMQG Activities and Upcoming Meetings

**Saturday May 4th** Sew in to benefit Crossroads. Guests welcome. Portsmouth Public Library, Levenson Room, 175 Parrott Avenue, Portsmouth, NH. 10:30am to 4:30pm. Additional information forth coming.

### Area Quilt-Related Activities

April 28 - The Cambridge Modern Quilt Guild cordially invites all Boston-area quilters to the guild's yearly **Open Meeting on Sunday, April 28, 3-5pm**, in the **Lecture Hall** of the **Cambridge Main Public Library, 449 Broadway**. Attendance is free and no RSVP is required.

They will be hosting a presentation entitled "**Harriet Powers: Modern Before Our Time.**" Harriet Powers, an African American woman born into slavery in Georgia, has long been considered the mother of African American story quilts. The Princeton Sankofa Stitchers Modern Quilt Guild (PSSMQG) recently led a collaboration with other African American guilds to create modern versions of Powers' blocks from her famous Bible and Pictorial story quilts of the 1890s.

Three members of the Cambridge guild worked on these modernized blocks: **Juandamarie Gikandi**, **Tarsha Nicole-Taylor**, and **Lesyslie Rackard**. They will speak about their experiences with the project.

**The contemporary Powers blocks will be on display during the talk.** These magnificent panels were featured in *Quiltfolk* magazine's January 2024 issue, and hung at QuiltCon 2023. They honor Powers' legacy and showcase the influence of her work on the world of modern quilting.

For more info, email us: [cambridgemodernquiltguild@gmail.com](mailto:cambridgemodernquiltguild@gmail.com)

### Cambridge Modern Quilt Guild

April 16 Crossroads Quilters Auction, Living Hope Church of the Nazarene, 556 Cabot Street, Beverly MA

April 1 – 30 Maine Quilt Shop Hop <https://maineshophop.com> for more information

Autumn 2024 Southern New Hampshire Shop Hops <https://southernnhshophops.com> for more information. The fall Southern New Hampshire Shops Hops is held the end of October. Dates to be announced.

September 1 – October 31 The All New England Shop Hop <https://allnewenglandshophop.com/> There are currently 91 shops signed up.

### Area Quilt Shows (Resource: <https://quiltnewengland.com>)

April 20th – 21st Amoskeag Quilters Guild Show, Memorial High School, 1 Crusader Way, Manchester NH, \$10.00

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- May 17 - 19            Genesee Valley QuiltFest, Rochester institute of Technology, 1 Lomb memorial Drive, Rochester NY, \$12.00
- July 25 – 27            Maine Quilts, Augusta Civic Center, 76 Community Drive, Augusta ME, \$15.00
- July 31 – August 2      Bayberry Quilt Show, Cape Cod Technical High School, 351 Pleasant Lake Avenue, Harwich MA
- November 16 – 17      Cocheco Quilt Guild's 2024 quilt show, rescheduled for November instead of their usual October dates due to construction at the venue in October. James Foley Memorial Community Center, 150 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH

### 2024 Retreat Sponsors

Marden's - 13 locations throughout Maine, including Sanford, Biddeford, Grey, Lewiston, & Waterville

Seacoast Sewing  
Attn Jill Patsfield  
755 Banfield Rd  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Crafts Custom Quilting  
Attn Patty Crafts  
Brentwood, NH. 03833

Missouri Star Quilt Co. (contact online)

Compass Point Quilting  
Attn Lisa McCarthy  
59 Sanborn Rd  
East Kingston, NH 03827

Portsmouth Fabric Co  
Attn: Gretchen  
112 Penhallow St  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Local Anchor  
Attn Nina Braun  
62 Market St  
Portsmouth, NH      03801

Calli b jewelry  
Attn Marianne Janik  
21 Daniel St  
Portsmouth, NH      03801