



# Green Mountain Quilters Guild

## “MOUNTAIN PIECERS”

### Fall 2023 Newsletter

**Welcome!** to the Fall Meeting of the  
Green Mountain Quilters Guild

Saturday, October 28, 2023

Doors open: 9 am; Meeting: 9:30 am

Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church, 43 Hebard Hill Rd, Randolph, VT



### President's Message

Dear quilting friends,

I hope you've had a good summer, full of fun and fulfilling experiences. It has been a rough time for those affected by July's floods, especially here in Central Vermont, but it has also been stirring to see the kindness neighbors have extended to each other in a time of great need. By the time this reaches you, I hope those affected will have attained enough normalcy to have time for creativity in their quilting dens/studios/rooms/tables again.

I am sorry to have missed the annual quilt show at Billings Farm this summer due to the flood, but I hope to be able to attend at least one of the fall ones, either in Middlebury or Bennington. If you entered or are entering any of these shows, please share your quilts during Show and Tell at our fall meeting. I really missed going to the Vermont Quilt Festival, too; YouTube videos just don't fill the void for me. I feel a real need to “tune up” my

quilting brain in the company of other quilters on a regular basis.

With that in mind, the GMQG board has a fun and informative program planned, again at Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church in Randolph, on Saturday, October 28, beginning at 9:30 am (doors open at 9 am). Please feel free to bring a friend(s) for a day of inspiration and conviviality. You'll be able to bring a Floating Star quilt block for a lottery, enter to win a door prize or a basket of fat quarters, and shop at the Quilters' Yard Sale.

Best of all, by popular demand, the program will include four energetic demonstrations on topics of interest to beginning and seasoned quilters alike. Vermont is full of skilled and creative quilters from whom we can learn a great deal. If you would like to share a skill at a future meeting or know someone who can, please let any board member know. Suggestions for future programs are always welcome.

*President's Message continued on page 2*



***President's Message continued***

Many people, me included, find Show and Tell the best part of the day, and we'll want to see your summer projects, large and small. You'll be inspiring others and, perhaps, seeing things that get your creative juices flowing.

I promise to try to keep the Business Meeting short and sweet. I can already report that our treasury is on an upward trajectory, our new website ([www.greenmountainquiltersguild.com](http://www.greenmountainquiltersguild.com)) is running, and we are holding a September Barn Quilt information meeting for quilters and the general public in the southern part of the state. The board once again will be making the coffee at the meeting, and we would love some help with that also.

Please remember that members are welcome to vend or bring Yard Sale items for free at our meetings. If your guild has created a raffle quilt, don't hesitate to sell tickets, too. Contact Corresponding Secretary, Sandy Wilmot to reserve your space. It will be fun to be together again!

***Marianne Kotch, President***



## **Remembering Mitzi, Carolyn, and Charlotte**

In recent months, quilters Miriam "Mitzi" Oakes, Carolyn Fernandez, and Charlotte Croft have all passed away. I believe Mitzi and Charlotte each served as president of our statewide guild, and both remained active members of the guild for many years thereafter. All were active in the Vermont quilt "scene" and shared their expertise gladly. We will take a minute to honor the memories of all three ladies and any other quilters we've lost at our October meeting.

Mitzi, born in Newark, NJ, in 1934, lived in Burlington and, together with her husband Bill, formed the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) and also an HVAC service company they ran for over 35 years. She belonged to the Champlain Valley Quilters Guild and, during Hurricane Katrina, mobilized that group into making and sending quilts down to Louisiana for relief. Online condolences to her family may be posted at [www.cremationsocietycc.com](http://www.cremationsocietycc.com).

I met Carolyn, a longtime resident of Northfield, when she came to consult with the Vermont Historical Society's volunteer sewers to show us how to mend some of the historical quilts in the collection. Born in 1922, Carolyn was a certified art dealer and appraiser who evaluated over 450 antique quilts for the Vermont Quilt Festival from 1981-1985 and worked closely with Richard Cleveland on the VQF board. She also studied and dated quilts and textiles in the collection of the Shelburne Museum. Her obituary is available at <https://www.sevendaysvt.com/vermont/obituary-carolyn-fernandez-1922-2023/Content?oid=37434228>

An enthusiastic member of GMQG long after her stint as president, Charlotte, born in 1944, lived in East Barnard and was a member of the Delectable Mountains Quilt Guild. An avid quilter, Charlotte made quilts professionally, as gifts for family and friends, and to support those in need. Her obituary (<https://www.boardwayandcillee.com/obituary/charlotte-croft>) noted that she always had a needle, thread and fabric close at hand for the numerous projects she was working on.

***Marianne Kotch, President***

**Green Mountain Quilters Guild**  
**Fall Meeting Agenda**  
**Saturday, October 28, 2023**

9:00 am	Doors open for coffee and refreshments; sign up for Show and Tell, enter door prize, fat quarter and raffle block drawings; browse Quilter's Mini Yard Sale, visit vendors
9:30 am	Business meeting, Marianne Kotch presiding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Announcements</li> <li>◆ Recognition of members who have passed away</li> <li>◆ Introduction of GMQG board members and new guild members</li> <li>◆ Recording Secretary's report - Liz Achilles/Sandy Wilmot</li> <li>◆ Treasurer's report – Robin Mascitti</li> <li>◆ GMQG website update – Sandy Wilmot/Jan Sherman</li> <li>◆ Other business</li> </ul>
10:00 am	Program: Demonstrations (25 minutes each and switch) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tips and Tricks with zipper bags – Wendy Richardson</li> <li>2. Tear-less paper piecing – Liz Achilles</li> </ol>
11:00 am	Show & Tell – Soni Johnson
Noon	Time for lunch, shopping, up-close viewing and voting on show and tell items, and last chance to enter raffles
1:00 pm	Barn Quilt update – Marianne Kotch
1:15 pm	Program: Demonstrations (25 minutes each and switch) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hexagon panel quilts – Tess Greaves</li> <li>2. "Green" ideas for gift wrapping – Robin Mascitti and Marianne Kotch</li> </ol>
2:15 pm	Show and Tell awards, door prize, fat quarter and raffle block drawings
2:30 pm	Good bye and Clean Up



**Remember to Bring:**

- ◆ Nametag
- ◆ Refreshments to Share (please provide an ingredient list for those with allergies)
- ◆ Your Lunch
- ◆ Show & Tell items
- ◆ Cash for shopping & FQ raffle tickets

**To Do at the Meeting:**

- ◆ **Check in** at Membership Table.
- ◆ **Sign in items** for **Show and Tell**
- ◆ Drop off **Raffle Block(s)**
- ◆ Drop off Refreshments
- ◆ **Shop** the Vendors
- ◆ **Shop** the Mini Yard Sale



## Fall Program to Include Mini Yard Sale

The October 28, 2023, meeting of the Green Mountain Quilters Guild will again feature a Quilters' Mini Yard Sale! The board will set aside five tables for up to ten members to sell their surplus fabric, tools, notions, books, and what-have-you. Here is an opportunity for sellers to get rid of unused rulers, "ugly" fabric, books, and even finished items like totes or zipper bags. Here's an opportunity for shoppers to find things that "spark joy" or that they've been looking for.

Each "vendor" will be able to use half of an 8' long table in any way she/he wishes. You may set up your space at 8:30 am so that you can be ready when the doors open at 9:00. Mark your prices carefully with stickers or clear signs. Bring a little change. Plan to bring all unsold items home with you at the end of the day. A good will offering (or door prize) to the guild would be greatly appreciated, too.

The day's program will include time to browse the tables. Shoppers should plan to bring small bills and/or a checkbook to make life easier for the "vendors."

To reserve your half table, contact Sandy Wilmot, GMQG Corresponding Secretary, at [sandy.wilmot@yahoo.com](mailto:sandy.wilmot@yahoo.com) or (802) 488-4031. First come, first served.



### October Meeting Show & Tell

I love Show & Tell!

#### Show & Tell



The variety of projects and fabrics and patterns on display are amazing. Looking at all the entries, and listening to member presentations, can inspire me to start a new project, learn a new technique, and provide ideas on how to finish (or at least move forward on) a project I am stuck on.

No matter how big or how small, bring your creations to the Fall meeting and enter them in Show & Tell. The more entries the better!

Prizes will be awarded!

See you in October.

*Soni Johnson, Guild Member*



## Fall Program: Demonstrations

By popular demand, this year's fall GMQG program will again feature four demonstrations by members. Two will be presented in the morning and two in the afternoon, with both workshops repeating so that everyone can enjoy all four in the day. Here's what you can look forward to learning about:

- ◆ **Tips and Tricks for Zipper Bags** – Wendy Richardson has been making and selling attractive, sturdy, and useful zipper bags at craft shows for a number of years. She'll talk about fabric selection, various stiffeners, how to make zippers easier to insert, and more.
- ◆ **Tear-less Paper Piecing** – If you shy away from foundation paper piecing because you dislike removing the paper, Liz Achilles will show how to avoid that and still end up with perfect blocks.
- ◆ **Hexagon Panel Quilts** – Do you find panels hard to work with? Tess Greaves will show you how to use "stack n whack" techniques to come up with a beautiful, unique quilt.
- ◆ **"Green" Ideas for Gift Wrapping** – Robin Mascitti and Marianne Kotch believe in recycling, and will show several easy bags and other items to make holiday and special gift giving more "green."



### Win a Bundle of FQ's!

You just might win a bundle of fat quarters at the October 28 GMQG meeting, while supporting your local quilt shop and the guild! Here's how:

- ◆ Visit your local quilt shop and buy at least one fat quarter. Make sure to get a business card from the shop.
- ◆ Bring the fat quarter with the attached business card to add to the basket set aside for the raffle.
- ◆ Buy raffle tickets @ \$1 for one or \$5 for six chances.
- ◆ Winner takes all the fat quarters home to add to your stash! You'll be supporting the guild, win or lose.



Our next meeting will be Saturday, May 4, 2024 at  
Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church, Randolph.

We welcome submissions from members and guilds  
for the newsletter. Deadline for the spring newsletter is April 1, 2024.

## Floating Star Raffle Block

The GMQG Fall Meeting quilt block raffle is the “Floating Star” block. To keep the fall theme, use white or off-white as the background and an assortment of fall fabrics for the star. The pattern makes a 12 inch finished star block.

*Soni Johnson, Vice President*



### Floating Start Quilt Block

#### Cutting:

For the Background:	For the Star:
Cut (4) squares—4”x 4”	Cut (1) square— 5 ½” x 5 ½”
Cut (4) rectangles—4” x 5 ½”	Cut (8) squares—3 ½” x 3 ½”

#### Construction:

1. Draw a diagonal line (corner to corner) on the wrong side of all of the 3½” squares.
2. Take one 3½” square and one rectangle. Align the square on the lower right corner of the rectangle with right sides together. Sew on the diagonal line or just a thread or two to the right. Press and cut off the excess (leaving a ¼” seam allowance).
3. Take another 3½” square and align it on the lower left corner of the rectangle with right sides together. Sew on the diagonal line or just a thread or two to the right. Press and cut off the excess (leaving a ¼” seam allowance).
4. Repeat steps 2 & 3 three more times.
5. Lay out the block, arranging the pieces to form the star. Sew the pieces into rows and sew the rows together to form the block.



If you have thoughts, ideas, suggestions, complaints, etc. feel free to call or email, GMQG President, Marianne Kotch at [mkotch731@gmail.com](mailto:mkotch731@gmail.com) or home phone: 802-476-4185.

# GMQG TREASURER'S REPORT

Financial Summary: May 1, 2023 through September 1, 2023

Checking		Savings	
Ending Balance		Ending Balance	
9/1/2023	\$1,835.00	9/1/2023	\$2,009.31

## Transactions

FY 2024 Through September 1, 2023			
Revenue		Expenses	
\$ 740.00	Membership dues	(\$300.00)	Venue Rental
\$ 32.63	Guild donations		
\$ 385.00	Auction		
\$ 10.00	Coffee		
<b>\$1,167.63</b>	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>(\$300.00)</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>
<b>\$ 867.63 Net Gain</b>			

*Robin Mascitti, Treasurer*



## GMQG BOARD MEMBERS

<b>President - Marianne Kotch</b>
<b>Vice President - Soni Johnson</b>
<b>Treasurer - Robin Mascitti</b>
<b>Recording Secretary - Elizabeth Achilles</b>
<b>Corresponding Secretary and Facebook - Sandy Wilmot</b>
<b>Membership - Ginny Poplawski</b>
<b>Historian - vacant</b>
<b>Newsletter and Guild Liaison - Tess Greaves</b>
<b>Webmasters - Jan Sherman, Sandy Wilmot</b>
<b>Website: <a href="http://greenmountainquiltersguild.com">greenmountainquiltersguild.com</a></b>
<b>Join us on FACEBOOK! <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1678830182330328/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1678830182330328/</a></b>
<b>Contact any GMQG Board Member by email at: <a href="mailto:greenmountainquiltersguild@gmail.com">greenmountainquiltersguild@gmail.com</a></b>



**Green Mountain Quilters Guild Spring Meeting 2023**  
**May 6, 2023**  
**Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church, Randolph, Vermont**  
**Business Meeting Minutes**

President Marianne Kotch opened the business meeting at 9:30 am with announcements from the members. We held a moment of silence for members who had recently passed away, followed by the introduction of GMQG board members and new members. Acting Recording Secretary Sandy Wilmot being absent, we dispensed with approval of the minutes of the Fall, 2022 meeting.

**Treasurer** Robin Mascitti presented a report, including a proposed budget for 2023-24. She said we are in fine shape but need to continue fund raising in order to pay good speakers in the future. The board will organize a fund raiser for the fall meeting, perhaps another fat quarter raffle.

In the absence of Vice President Lorrie Churchill, Marianne presented the following slate of officers to serve two year terms, beginning in the summer of 2023 and continuing until spring, 2025:

- ◆ President – Marianne Kotch
- ◆ Vice President – Soni Johnson
- ◆ Recording Secretary – Liz Achilles
- ◆ Corresponding Secretary – Sandy Wilmot
- ◆ Treasurer – Robin Mascitti

Marianne thanked Lorrie and **Nominations Committee** members Soni Johnson and Nola Forbes for their work. She called for a vote on the slate, which was unanimously approved by the members present. Marianne asked if there was anyone present who would like to serve on the board as Membership Chair or Historian. No one volunteered, but Marianne noted that the board would continue looking to fill those unelected positions.

Jan Sherman reported on the development of the new GMQG **website** that she, Sandy Wilmot, and volunteer Rachel Wilmot have been working on.

Marianne introduced the day's main program, a **Vermont Quilt Designers' Showcase** featuring Karen Abrahamovitch, Kathleen Dorman, Tess Greaves, and Sharon Shorey, whose patterns were later available for sale in the vendor area.

Soni Johnson organized the day's **Show and Tell** session and said that she hoped to broaden the categories next time. During lunch, members shopped in the vendor area and placed bids on items in the Quilters Auction.

After lunch, Marti DelNevo, chair of the **Vermont Quilt Festival**, reported on what led to the VQF committee's very difficult decision to end the show after 40+ years.

Marianne reported on efforts to expand the **Barn Quilt** trail and noted that she plans to organize a southern information session this summer or fall. Kimberly O'Brine Hess has been offering painting



**Spring Meeting Minutes continued**

workshops and has volunteered to serve as Chittenden County contact for documenting barn quilts. More county contacts are needed.

Soni announced the winners of Show and Tell in various categories:

Miscellaneous and mini quilts

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Debbie Frohloff
- 2nd - Ghislaine Becker
- 3rd - Sue Schoolcraft

Lap quilts

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Jane Bushey
- 2nd - Ginny Moody
- 3rd - Linda Toohey

Wall hangings

- 1st - Debbie Frohloff
- 2nd - Hope Johnson
- 3rd - Suzy Kleinfelder

Blanket quilts

- 1st - Debbie Frohloff
- 2nd - Melody Chase
- 3rd - Marianne Kotch

Raffle and auction winners were drawn, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm. The fall meeting will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2023, again at Our Lady of the Angels, Randolph.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marianne Kotch, President, for Sandy Wilmot, Acting Recording Secretary



**GMQG Board Positions To Fill:**

- ◆ Photographer
  - Take photos at our semi-annual meetings.
  - Share photos on the GMQG's Facebook page and Website.
- ◆ Historian
  - Maintain files of the GMQG's historical documents.
  - Share items of interest at meetings, in the newsletters, on Facebook and Website.



If interested, speak to us in person or email: [greenmountainquiltersguild@gmail.com](mailto:greenmountainquiltersguild@gmail.com)



## New Membership Chair

We would like to welcome our new Membership Chair, Ginny Poplawski of Barre, Vermont, replacing Janice Sherman. If you did not renew your membership in the Spring of 2023, please complete the form and send checks to Ginny (see membership form). If you are not sure if you registered, please email the Guild at [greenmountainquiltersguild@gmail.com](mailto:greenmountainquiltersguild@gmail.com) and either Ginny or Jan will get back to you or you can call Jan at 802-244-7001. Hope to see you at the Fall meeting.

**Jan Sherman, Outgoing Membership Chair**



### Green Mountain Quilters Guild

#### 2023- 2024 Membership Form

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

**Please pre-register if possible.**

**To register, send these 3 items to: Ginny Poplawski, 5 Jalbert Road, Barre, VT 05641**

- 1) a check for **\$20** payable to **Green Mountain Quilters Guild**
- 2) this completed Membership Form and 3) a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope

**OR**, you may bring your check and completed form to the next meeting.

**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**