



Green Mountain Quilters Guild

“MOUNTAIN PIECERS”

Spring 2024 Newsletter

Welcome! to the Spring Meeting of the
Green Mountain Quilters Guild

Saturday, May 11, 2024

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

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

President's Message

HAPPY SPRING! I love spring for its flowers of all kinds. Tulips popping out of the ground and shadbush blooming out in the woods are such welcome sights! It seems like every day there's something new and pretty to look at. Our Green Mountains also sport a mind-blowing number of shades of green that I always wish I could capture in a quilt to look at during the dreary days of winter.

I'm so excited about the Green Mountain Quilters Guild spring meeting! After a winter's hibernation, driving past Jim Sardonis' beautiful "Whales Tails" sculpture to Our Lady of the Angels Church in Randolph for our May 11 meeting will be a treat. We have some fun activities and wonderful speakers planned, including quilter extraordinaire Christine Maute with her amazing quilts and Sherlock Terry of the Billings Farm and Museum.

For many of us, being encouraged and inspired by the work of other quilters is why we belong to quilt guilds and attend meetings and shows. I hope our state guild can offer opportunities for cross-pollination among quilters from all around the state. Realizing that it's quite a drive from as far away as Bennington or St. Albans to Randolph, the board plans our meetings with what we hope is plenty of time for quilters to chat and share ideas and techniques in a relaxed atmosphere. Show and Tell is at the heart of every meeting. It's a quilt show, just for us!

What I love about quilting is that I'm forever learning and trying new things. I started quilting in the early

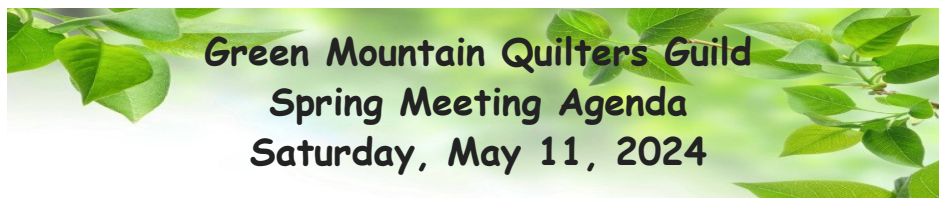
1970s, before rotary cutters and long arm quilting machines were ubiquitous. Georgia Bonesteel was my quilting hero, and *Quilters Newsletter* my go-to reference work. Pure cotton for quilts was hard to find, so my early quilts were made of cotton-polyester blends which I struggled to hand quilt.

Besides GMQG, I am lucky to belong to two very different local guilds, both of which enrich my quilting through sharing with others and seeing their quilts. The Calico County Quilters started around 1980. I was in awe of the skill of the quilters who attended those early meetings. After a long hiatus due to single motherhood and ownership of a derelict house, I returned to the group and happily attend monthly Saturday afternoon sew-ins. I've belonged to my other group, the Heart of Vermont Quilt Guild, since its start around 2008. It's grown to a membership of about 70, with each meeting offering an opportunity to learn from a speaker or demonstrations by members, along with Show and Tell.

I can't wait to see what you have all been working on this winter. Please don't be shy - bring your quilts, large and small, whether you are a new quilter or a long-time one, to share during Show and Tell. You will be inspiring us all. Thanks to GMQG VP Soni Johnson, you may even win a fat quarter!

Doors open at 9 am for vendors, refreshments to share, the quilters' auction, and good fellowship, too. You'll also be able to renew your membership in person. Hope to see you there!

Marianne Kotch, President



**Green Mountain Quilters Guild
Spring Meeting Agenda
Saturday, May 11, 2024**

9:00 am	Doors open for refreshments; sign up for Show and Tell, enter door prize and raffle block drawings; visit vendors; browse and bid on Quilters' Auction
9:30 am	Business Meeting , Marianne Kotch presiding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Announcements ◆ Recognition of members who have passed away ◆ Introduction of GMQG board members and new members ◆ Recording Secretary's report – Liz Achilles ◆ Corresponding Secretary/Webmaster's Report – Sandy Wilmot ◆ Treasurer's report – Robin Mascitti ◆ Membership Chair report – Ginny Poplawski
10:15 am	The Challenges of Quilting – Christine Maute Long-time GMQG member, Chris will show and tell us about her quilts made as the result of her own curiosity about techniques and skills prompted by annual Northern Lights Quilt Guild challenges. She truly "colors outside the lines" seeming to set no boundaries as far as her work is concerned. Now that she's retired, what will her next project entail?
11:15 am	Time to visit Chris' exhibit, vendors and the Quilters Auction
11:30 am	Plans for the 2025 GMQG Raffle Quilt – Soni Johnson & Robin Mascitti
11:45 am	Show & Tell – Soni Johnson
12:30 pm	Time for lunch, shopping, up-close viewing and voting on show and tell items, and last chance to bid on Quilters' Auction items
1:15 pm	Billings Farm & Museum Update - Sherlock Terry, Curatorial & Exhibits Manager
1:45 pm	Show and Tell awards, Quilters' Auction, door prize and raffle block drawings
2:30 pm	Good bye, plans for 2024-2025 and Clean Up

Remember to Bring:

- ◆ Nametag
- ◆ Refreshments to Share
- ◆ **Beverages** of choice & Lunch
- ◆ Show & Tell items
- ◆ Quilter's Auction items
- ◆ **Dues and Cash** for shopping
- ◆ Block for swap

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**
- ◆ **Check out** the Quilters' Auction
- ◆ **Shop** the vendors

Spring Program To Focus On Challenges

A quilter who thinks deeply about and meets quilting challenges, members who set egos aside to share their quilts, and a Vermont museum that has risen to fill a need for a statewide quilt show will all be featured during the May 11, 2024, meeting of the Green Mountain Quilters Guild. Doors will open at 9:00 am at Randolph's Our Lady of the Angels Church, just off Interstate 89. Bring your lunch and beverages of choice and plan to leave with lots of new ideas.

After a brief business meeting, long-time member Christine Maute of Norwich will give a trunk show of quilts she has made over the years as a result of annual challenges issued in the Northern Lights Quilt Guild (NLQG). Expect to see many quilts of all sizes using various techniques. Says Chris,

My head is a very busy place with lots of ideas about art quilt designs as well as techniques I would like to try out. I enjoy participating in quilting challenges because they provide me with a focal point for my creativity, opportunities to use multiple techniques, and deadlines that help motivate me to actually finish the project.



You may recall a workshop Chris did about how she'd turned a photograph of her mother into a quilted portrait. Chris isn't afraid to try new methods, and she'll explain how she goes about turning her ideas into quilts. As Chris displays a number of her works, we'll get a sense of her wide-ranging creativity and her willingness to experiment. As one GMQG board member said, "the woman has no boundaries when it comes to quilting!"

Chris is a long-time member of GMQG and her art quilts have received numerous viewers' choice ribbons from GMQG and NLQG showings. She has only entered one quilt into a judged quilt show. Her "Razzle Dazzle with a Twist" was entered in the 2021 virtual Vermont Quilt Festival show and received a blue ribbon.

Show and tell is also a popular, regular feature of every GMQG meeting, for good reason. Members are invited to show their quilts, large and small, reflecting various techniques, to the group. Your quilt can be an antique or one you just made. Feel free to take pictures to inspire future projects. When you arrive at the meeting, check in with Soni Johnson, GMQG Vice President, to enter. You may even win a prize as there will be time for voting on favorites.

After show and tell, lunch, and a visit to the quilter's auction, Sherlock Terry, Curatorial and Exhibit Manager of the Billings Farm and Museum, will discuss two quilt-related initiatives at the museum this summer. First is an invitational exhibit of ten barn quilts made by various Vermonters throughout the farm. Second is a juried *Vermont Quilt Sampler*, featuring 50 quilts by Vermont quilters made during 2023, with an emphasis on variety and innovation. The show will run from June 29 to September 2 and came about when the Vermont Quilt Festival could not continue. During the exhibition, the public will be invited to try engaging, hands-on activities and crafts relating to quilting throughout the exhibition. On select weekends, local quilt guilds will gather and offer experiences to further educate and inspire guests.

Marianne Kotch, President

Members Can Be Vendors - For Free!

Are you looking to de-stash after a winter of cleaning your sewing studio? Have you created patterns to sell? Or have you made crafts, jewelry, and other items that other quilters might like to buy? Consider vending at the spring meeting of the Green Mountain Quilters Guild. Members vend for free, simply by contacting GMQG Corresponding Secretary Sandy Wilmot at (802) 899-4366 or sandy.wilmot@yahoo.com before the May 11 meeting. Let Sandy know if you'd like a whole 3' x 8' table or a half, and we will have one waiting for you when you arrive. If you can spare a modest door prize to be given to an attendee, that would be great.



Get Ready for the Quilter's Auction!

The spring GMQG meeting wouldn't be complete without another Quilters' Auction. Besides being a great way to "prune" your stash, it's always a popular fundraiser for the guild. Bring things you think other quilters will enjoy such as fat quarters, yardage, thread, patterns, notions, books, yarn, home-made jam, baskets, plants, and more. *If your home includes smokers, please make sure to give items a good airing before bringing them.*

Here's how it will work:

- ◆ Local guilds and individual members are encouraged to bring items for auction. The more items there are, the greater your chance of "winning" something.
- ◆ We will set the items out and sell tickets for bidding (\$10 for a card of 15 tickets).
- ◆ Each item or group of items will be numbered and have a paper bag taped to the table in front of it. Put one or more tickets into any bag you'd like to win.
- ◆ Winners will be drawn toward the end of the day so that you can take your items home.
- ◆ All proceeds will help GMQG offer more excellent programs in the future.

Marianne Kotch, President



Membership Report

Membership renewals and new memberships are due for the year May 1, 2024 - April 30, 2025. You can either mail the form in this newsletter to me with your check or bring it with you to the Spring meeting.

This past year we had 43 paid members and 11 past presidents (who don't pay dues). Do you know other quilters in your community or local guild who might enjoy our meetings? Invite them to come on Saturday, May 11.

Ginny Poplawski, Membership Chair

Board Plans Quilt Raffle

At the Green Mountain Quilters Guild board meeting in March, Treasurer Robin Mascitti noted that the guild is slowly regaining ground lost due to dwindling membership during the pandemic. But in order to maintain a useful website and continue sponsoring excellent programs, “we need to fund-raise,” she said. The annual spring Quilter’s Auction and fall fat quarter raffle have been successful, and now the board has decided to try a statewide quilt auction to raise funds and to promote the guild’s activities and programs.

Board members offered to scour their stashes for fabrics that would serve as the basis of a queen-sized disappearing nine patch quilt. The board will cut the fabrics and assemble kits for members to pick up at the 2024 spring meeting. Simple instructions will be included, and members will have the summer to make the blocks to be collected at the fall meeting in November. During the winter, the quilt will be sandwiched, quilted, and bound for display at the spring, 2025, meeting. Raffle tickets will be available at that meeting.

During the summer of 2025, the quilt will move around the state, and tickets will be sold in person and online. If there’s a fun activity planned in your community, please contact the GMQG board with details (email greenmountainquiltersguild@gmail.com) so that guild representatives can be there with the quilt and raffle tickets. The grand drawing will be held at the fall, 2025 GMQG meeting. Watch the newsletter, our Facebook page, and the website (<https://greenmountainquiltersguild.com>) for progress in creating the quilt and events as they happen.

Marianne Kotch, President



May Meeting Show and Tell



Spring is here and I can’t wait to see all the projects you worked on over the winter! Categories this year include:

- Bed Quilts
- Lap Quilts/Throws
- Baby/Crib Quilts
- Wall Hangings & Table Runners
- Quilted Garments, Bags & Totes
- Unique (anything that doesn’t fit in those five categories)

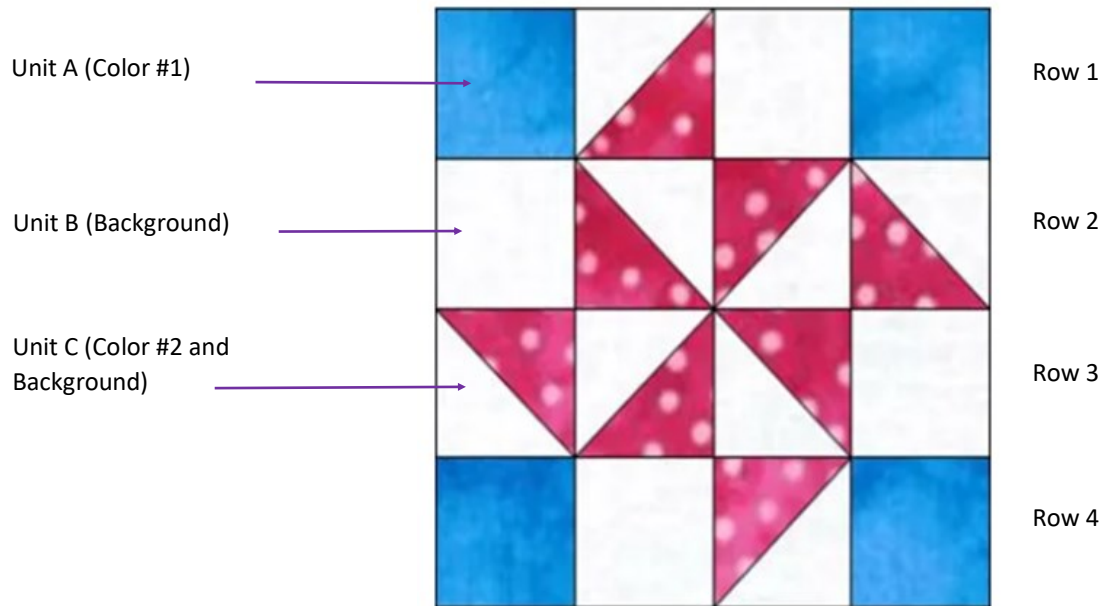
Bring your creations to the May meeting and enter them in Show & Tell. No matter how big or small, simple or intricate, traditional or modern – all is welcome! Prizes will be awarded!

Soni Johnson, Show & Tell



Springtime Whirligig Raffle Block

Unfinished Size: 12.5 inches



Colors

Background should be cream or off-white.

Color #1 and Color #2 should be bright and lively – think SPRING!

Fabric Requirements

Unit A = 4 – 3.5-inch squares from Color #1

Unit B = 4 – 3.5-inch squares from Background

Unit C = 4 – 4-inch squares from Background and 4 – 4-inch squares from Color #2

Directions

Note: To cut down on bulk, press all seams open.

1. Make HSTs for Unit C. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of each 4-inch background square. Layer them (right sides together) with the Color #2 squares and sew a quarter of an inch on either side of the drawn line. Cut on drawn line and press. Trim each HST to 3.5 x 3.5 inches. You should have eight HSTs.
2. Assemble Units A, B, & C into rows 1-4 (as noted above). Then sew rows into the block.

Soni Johnson, Vice President



The Saga of the Totes

With the “retirement” of Robin Gurney from guild Show & Tell, historian, and coffee duties in 2022, the board found itself recruiting three people to fill those gigantic shoes. Vice President Soni Johnson stepped up to handle Show & Tell, taking possession of sign up sheets and other goodies Robin had neatly stored in a tote.

As a retired librarian, I offered to take on the history files. I had organized several groups’ files as a volunteer at the Vermont Historical Society, which I believe is the appropriate home for such an important archive. In the future, we will be able to contribute to the archive at any time, knowing that it is intact and safe from harm. In May, 2023, Robin Mascitti helped me pick up Robin’s history files which were packed in several large totes and notebooks that took up most of my car. These totes are now safely stacked in my basement. As is typical, my good intentions of going through them this winter were diverted by quilting. I still plan to organize the files somewhat and deliver them to the Vermont Historical Society for safekeeping.

After the May, 2022, meeting, Robin G. gave me a gigantic array of coffee supplies packed in a heavy, coffin-sized tote and a couple of bags. I consolidated these items into four tote bags for easier carrying. After a good scrubbing, the “coffin” was recycled at the ReSource store. Along with the coffee supplies came another tote devoted solely to the Quilter’s Auction we hold each spring. We have enough tickets and paper bags to last at least a decade! The board has decided to revert back to the pre-pandemic practice of recruiting a different guild each year to organize the auction items and sell tickets.

That leaves me literally holding the coffee bags! For a few meetings, I tried valiantly to juggle coffee duties with presidential ones, which include setting up the room, meeting speakers, running the meetings, and more. I hardly had time to greet new and returning guild members. During this time, I noticed that coffee consumption has slowed down and that many people seem to bring their own beverages. (I’m sure it’s not a consequence of my cooking!)

With all that in mind, the board decided to try **not** offering coffee service at our May, 2024, meeting. ***We encourage you to bring your own beverages to the meeting.*** If you like your coffee or tea hot, please stop at Maplefield’s or McDonalds on your way to the church from the interstate. There is a microwave in the church kitchen which may be used to heat water for tea, hot chocolate, or even instant coffee. And I’ll still bring one tote bag with paper plates, plastic “silverware,” and napkins. See you soon!

Marianne Kotch, President



2024 Quilting Events!



State of Maine Shop Hop, Shops across Maine invite you to Shop Hop. April 1-30, 2024
[Win Prizes - Official State of Maine Quilt Shop Hop Website \(maineshophop.com\)](https://maineshophop.com)

Barn Quilt Exhibition, Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock, VT. April 5 to December 1, 2024.
[Barn Quilt Exhibition - Billings Farm.](#)

New England Quilt Expo 2024, Center of NH Expo Center, Double Tree Hotel, Manchester, NH.
April 11-13, 2024. [New England Quilt Expo 2024 - Quilting in New England \(quiltnewengland.com\)](https://quiltnewengland.com)

A Vermont Quilt Sampler, Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock, VT. June 29 to September 2, 2024. 10 am to 5 pm daily. [Quilt Exhibition - Billings Farm and Museum, Woodstock, Vermont](#)

Maine Quilts 2024. Augusta Civic Center, Augusta, ME. July 25-27, 2024. 9am to 5 pm daily.
[Pine Tree Quilters Guild, Inc. – Organized 1978 • Incorporated 1979 \(mainequilts.org\)](https://mainequilts.org)

Sew Many Quilt Shows, Listing of New England Quilt Shows & Fiber Arts Events 2024.
[Calendar | Sew Many Shows](#)

Bennington Quiltfest, Mount Anthony Union Middle School, Bennington, VT. September 14-15, 2024.
[Bennington Quiltfest - Quiet Valley Quilters](#)

All New England Shop Hop, Shops across New England invite you to Shop Hop. September 1 to October 31, 2024. [All New England Shop Hop | September 1 - October 31](#)

Champlain Valley Quilters Presents:

“Seams Like Spring” 2024 QUILT SHOW

April 26-28 Fri & Sat 9-5, Sun 12-4

Holy Family Parish Hall

Admission \$8, Under 12 Free

30 Lincoln St, Essex Jct, VT

More info& enter quilt at www.cvgqvt.org



GMQG Treasurer's Report

Financial Summary: May 1, 2023—March 1, 2024

Checking					
Starting Balance		Total Expenditures	Total Deposits	Ending Balance	
9/1/2023	\$ 1,835.00	\$ (540.81)	\$ 238.00	3/1/2024	\$ 1,532.19

Savings					
Starting Balance		Total Expenditures	Total Deposits	Ending Balance	
9/1/2023	\$ 2,009.31	\$ -	\$ 102.54	3/1/2024	\$ 2,111.85

Transactions

FY 2024 through March	
Revenue:	
\$ 780.00	Membership dues
\$ 78.63	Guild donations
\$ 385.00	Spring Auction
\$ 111.00	Fall fat quarter raffle
\$ 30.00	Guest fees
\$ 21.00	Coffee
\$1,405.63	Total Revenue
Expenses:	
\$ (26.06)	Newsletter postage
\$ (214.75)	Website Host
\$ (600.00)	Hall rental x 2
(\$ 840.81)	Total Expenses
\$ 564.82	Net Gain

Proposed FY 2025 Budget May 2024—April 2025

INCOME	
\$ 860.00	Membership dues (43@\$20 each)
\$ 50.00	Guest fees
\$ 385.00	Spring Auction
\$ 110.00	Other Fundraising/FQ raffle
\$ 1.00	Interest on savings
\$ 100.00	Guild donations
\$1,506.00	Total Income
EXPENSES	
\$ (56.00)	Newsletter/postage
\$ (600.00)	Hall rental (May/Oct)
\$ (600.00)	Speakers/Mileage
\$ (250.00)	Website
(\$1,506.00)	Total Expenses
0.00	

Robin Mascitti, Treasurer



Face-lift for our Facebook Page

Stay tuned for a new Facebook page, coming in late May. There are some glitches on our GMQG Facebook that mean creating a more functional page. Administering the page as it is has been challenging because it was created as a shared site with another user. The new Facebook will allow autonomy, something we all strive towards. You may be required to re-friend us, but I'll make sure you get the word.

Sandy Wilmot, Corresponding Secretary and Facebook



GMQG BOARD MEMBERS

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



Green Mountain Quilters Guild

2024- 2025 Membership Form

Annual Membership is May 1st through April 30th

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