Quilting for Show

One of the highlights of the quilting year is the Champlain Valley Quilters Guild's annual Quilt Show. As the show has grown over the years, so has its quality, variety and energy. New members may find many ways to get involved in the guild simply by volunteering to help in some aspect of the show.

CVQG Quilt Show

The Quilt Show committees must coordinate receiving, tagging, and setting up quilts for the show, acquiring and accommodating judges, soliciting and arranging for vendors, assembling the silent auction, providing the raffle quilt and selling tickets, publicizing the show, identifying, contacting and securing lecturers or special displays, obtaining, setting up and cleaning up the show site.

Guild members may enter quilts in the show either to be judged or for show only. Listen at guild meetings or read the newsletter for more information about entering a quilt in the show.

Or maybe one of the following aspects of the show is right for you to get involved with. If so, contact the coordinator of that show committee directly.

Admissions

The Admissions Coordinator oversees greeting visitors to the show, receiving the entry fee, and coordinating volunteers to staff the entry table.

Catalog, Advertising, & Sponsors

The Catalog, Advertising and Sponsors coordinators work together to gain support from area businesses for the show.

The Advertising coordinator procures advertising for the catalog from local businesses, while the Sponsors coordinator looks for high-profile sponsors for the overall show.

The Catalog coordinator puts the show together in print form including writing copy, laying out advertising, and preparing the catalog for the printer.

Hostesses & Volunteers

Many guild members can help with the Quilt Show by being hostesses or volunteers. The hostesses walk the floor of the quilt displays offering to show visitors the backs of quilts or pointing out certain special aspects of quilts that may not be readily apparent to the casual observer. They wear white gloves for handling delicate fabrics, and gently encourage visitors to look but not touch.

Volunteers may be called upon to receive quilts on Wednesday or Thursday, hang quilts on Friday, work at the entry table, be hostesses, or help with clean up and quilt return.

Volunteering as a hostess is a quick way for a newcomer to get involved in the Quilt Show.

Judges & Scribes

The Judging and Ribbons coordinators work to procure quality judges, arrange for their arrival and stay, organize the judges’ lunch and morning coffee, coordinate pre-show judging and scribes, and provide ribbons for prize-winning quilts.

Scribing is a coveted job at the quilt show, since scribes get to follow the judges
as they make decisions. Scribes record the judges’ comments and learn much about quality quilting in the process.

Preview Reception
The reception coordinator organizes a formal pre-show reception for judges, sponsors, and other participants prior to the official opening of the show. If hospitality is your gift, this may be a good place for you to volunteer!

Publicity
If outsiders don’t know about the show they can’t come, so publicity is an important aspect of show development. This coordinator gets the word out to newspapers, event calendars, advertisers, and other media outlets. She designs press releases, flyers, posters and info cards for distribution.

Quilt Receiving, Displaying, Returning
Displaying the quilts to their best advantage requires the cooperation of many different coordinators. The Registration coordinator receives, registers and returns the quilts as they are entered in the show.

The Artistic Director and Lighting coordinator work together to arrange the quilts in an attractive array.

The Show Decoration committee organizes banners, flowers and theme decoration for consistency among the many aspects of the show.

Raffle Quilt
Each year the guild chooses a quilt design for the Raffle Quilt in coordination with the Quilt Show theme. The Raffle coordinator oversees the quilt’s construction while the Raffle Tickets coordinator promotes the sale of tickets for the quilt and other prizes.

The more guild members get involved with selling the raffle tickets, the more funds the Raffle Quilt raises. Guild members are encouraged to participate in Raffle Quilt ticket sales.

Silent Auction
The Quilt Show includes a Silent Auction at which visitors and guild members can bid on items made and donated by guild members. This auction serves as a significant fund raiser for the guild during show time.

You can participate in the Silent Auction by making a small wall hanging (maximum 28" square) or other quilted piece for donating. The more pieces donated, the more funds the auction raises for guild activities.

Special Displays & Workshops
The coordinator of Workshops and Special Displays arranges for any displays, lectures, workshops or other features unique to that year’s show. In the past, this category has included displays of depression-era quilts, antique quilts, a wearable art show, and a workshop on feedsack quilts.

Vendors
The Vendors coordinator contacts potential vendors to offer them the opportunity to have a presence at the show. She arranges for their set-up and clean up during the show itself.