Champlain Valley Quilters Guild

December 2025

President's Message

Thank you to our wonderful guest at November's meeting: Creating Art with Thread Painting with Jan Doyle. Thank you to our program leaders!
As I write this, it is lightly snowing outside and I take pause in thinking about Thanksgiving next week, so much to be grateful for. Family, friendships, a season of giving and a time to share with others. Wishing you all a blessed Thanksgiving.
Please join us for the December guild meeting where we will share a dish of food with each other, please bring something to share for our dinner. Please remember to bring your plate/silverware/napkin/trash bag.
Judy and I have planned a fun evening with some games and hopefully some laughs. Please join us at 5:30pm for some social time and dinner starts at 6:00pm
Joy Schekter, President

Our bi-annual Quilt Show "Star Struck" is coming up! April 24-26, 2026. We have judges, prize ribbons, vendors (all spaces filled!) as well as raffle baskets, guild crafts and Quilts of Valor display. And our raffle quilt, "Echo Star" will go to its new home! Contest entries will start in February. Finish up a project or 2 (or more!).

Holiday meeting December 2

gather at 5:30, dinner at 6

Bring a dish (sweet or savory, hot or cold) to share. Bring your own place setting and beverage. After dinner, President Joy and Vice-President Judy will present a fun program! Bring lots of show and tell! We all love to see and be inspired by what everyone else is working on!

BOOK SALES - Library books—see page 5

April meeting author book—see page 6

Champlain Valley Quilt Guild

November 4, 2025

Speaker – Jan Doyle, of CT and owner of Wyse Works, spoke about Thread Painting. She was very interactive with her listeners and discussed the definition of thread painting, the types of stabilizers and threads she uses, and how she prints her own photographs on fabric. It was a very entertaining presentation. The program chairs announced there was still room in her workshop on Wednesday.

Business Meeting

Programs – Debbie Hernberg updated us on the early 2026 programs. January will be a Zoom meeting with Patty Klimek presenting "Quilting Superstars of the Past & How They Changed Quilting". Patty will present a Workshop, also by Zoom, on January 10th – Making Japanese Rice Bags. Students will be taught to make these bags and learn about embellishment including Sashiko handwork. Cost of class is $60; signup is available on our website.

December Meeting – Joy announced that we will meet at 5:30 for social hour and asks everyone to bring food for our traditional Potluck meal to be served at 6:00. Joy and VP Judy will offer some fun activities after the meal.

Membership – Linda Park distributed envelopes to attendees with 3 books of raffle tickets we each are asked to sell for the Quilt to be raffled at the April Show as well as a coupon for each to bring a guest of their choosing for free to a meeting during this Guild year. Linda drew a name for the nametag raffle; it was won by Dee Dee Israel. Catherine Symchch said she will after all issue an updated Guild membership list for because of a couple corrections but no more updates will follow.

2026 Show – Jo Frymire, as chair of the April 2026 Show, announced that Nancy Suarez has finished filling available vendor slots - Hooray. The Show Theme will be "Star Struck" and she encourages everyone to start thinking about making quilts with that theme because that will also be the theme of challenge quilts for next year. Jo said we have a good group of returning members that will work on planning the Show, but more would be welcome. Email her to get involved or ask questions.

Raffle Quilt 2027 – Chris Wrobel is the organizer to make the 2027 raffle quilt in time to sell tickets next August at the CV Fair. The pattern chosen is "Epicenter" and she showed some pieced parts of the quilt in progress. She encourages members to help with the piecing during a Community Quilting event on Friday at Yankee Pride.

Show Totes / Baskets – Chris, in another role, said she needed help collecting baskets or making totes for the Show "Tote Raffle". She is hoping to have a tote making class over the winter. Please start thinking of items you can donate to help fill the baskets/totes. The last show raffle raised about $1300 with around 25 filled containers.

Community Quilts – Carol Bloomhardt noted that member Barbara Carter had donated her stash to CQ so she had a stack of paired 1 yd cuts for members to take to make pillowcases for the hospital. Joy brings them to the hospital and will accept completed ones.

Book for Sale – Mary Neighbours from Programs said she will have copies of Jan Ellis' book available for sale ($15) at the December meeting. Jan is the maker of 'Bernie's Mittens' and our April speaker. Proceeds from the book are given to Vermont charities.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:35 for an always wonderful Show and Tell.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McGuire, Secretary

Community Quilts News

The guild would like to thank Barbara Carter and Rita Bortz for their generous donation of quilts, tops, fabric and other items. These long-time members have served our guild in so many ways including guiding the guild as president, spearheading quilt donations for Hope Lodge, organizing our community quilt efforts, volunteering at our quilt shows and just being a guiding light for our guild. Their generous hearts are a gift to us all.

Audrey & Carol

Come join us Friday December 5th from 10 AM to 2 PM at Yankee Pride as we make Wine Glass Coasters that will be sold at the upcoming quilt show in April. Bring your sewing machine, neutral thread, and holiday day cheer. We will have supplies ready to go from the many donations that we have received this year.

Please note, we will not meet on December 19th and January 2nd.

There is an opportunity to support Breast Cancer Patients through the Generator Marketplace in Burlington by making shower bags for the UVM Medical Center Oncology. Community Quilts has donated a box full of fabric for the cause. If you are interested in volunteering here is some important information.

Dates: Saturday, December 13 & Sunday, December 14
Time: 10:00am–2:00pm
Cost: FREE

Copy this link and paste into your browser:

https://generatorvt.com/healing-through-making-free-sewing-workshop-to-support-breast-cancer-patients/?fbclid=PAZnRzaAOEGNhleHRuA2FlbQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZA8xMjQwMjQ1NzQyODc0MTQAAaeBmreye5GVsuLnQj4az56hFWf-7DjX9R5x1ml-1LQZLwGxf_XNy9dPwU6SPw_aem_JYgoNxjWveH3cf7Of34nqw

Quilt Donation to The Veterans' Place

On December 25, 2024, each of 18 veterans living at The Veterans' Place, transitional housing for homeless veterans in Northfield, VT, received a quilt donated by several organizations and individuals: The Franklin County Quilters Guild via Denise Chase, Helping Hands for Grace via Linda Park, Patriotic Spirits QOV Group, Yankee Pride Quilt Shop via Suzanne Freitas, and Champlain Valley Quilters Guild members Anne Harmon, Karey Young, and Karen Abrahamovich. A heartfelt thanks to all for your generosity and support.
- Hope Johnson

News from our Quilts of Valor group "Patriotic Spirits"

In 2013, at a Champlain Valley Quilt Guild meeting, Andre Emmell made a heartfelt request for volunteers to help make quilts for the national Quilts of Valor Foundation. For the last twelve years, we have been meeting on the third Sunday of the month at Andre's studio and our Patriotic Spirits group has made over 200 quilts that have been presented to our military veterans with gratitude for their service. This volume of work would not be possible without the donations of fabric, blocks, quilt tops and completed quilts donated by CVQG members over the years. We currently have 13 members including some who work from home we always welcome anyone who would like to contribute in whatever way they prefer.

We started presenting the quilts at local events three years ago and this past year, we presented a total of 41 quilts to veterans at the following locations: four at Charlotte Senior Center Veteran's Luncheon; five at the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Shelburne Veteran's Memorial; eleven at the Mayo Nursing Home in Northfield; eight at the Milk & Honey Quilt Show in Middlebury including a special exhibit of Quilts of Valor; eleven at the Manor Nursing Home in Morrisville as part of their Veterans Day celebration; and two were presented in person to veterans in their homes. Veterans allow us to present them with a Quilt of Valor and they are touched and grateful for our acknowledgement of their service to our country.

If you are interested in participating in our local group, please contact guild members Hope Johnson or Helen Garvey. For more information on the Quilts of Valor Foundation including its history, QOV quilt guidelines, or to make an online donation to our group, go to qovf.org, click on "Donate to a local group" and enter Patriotic Spirits, #52137.

Thanks again to all of you who have supported QOV in the past and know that your contributions have helped to generate kindness, healing and goodwill towards those who have served, sacrificed or suffered in defense of our country and Constitution.

Hope Johnson 11/16/25

The shed—before

Organized!

Judy, Sue M, Jo, Carol, Linda P

Great job! Organized, clean, labeled!

Library Book Sale

The sale of all Guild library books continues in December. Purchases are by donation (pay what you feel the books you have selected are worth). If you have Champlain Valley Quilt Guild Library books at home, please return them or make a donation to pay for these books. The books should be easy to recognize as the CVQG is displayed on the spine of the library books (see the photo).

Thanks,

Pam Farnsworth

2026 programs - Zoom in January & February

JANUARY 6—ZOOM! Pattie Klimek will join us via Zoom for a lecture titled "Quilting Superstars of the Past and how they Changed Quilting.

Learn more about Pattie at her site https://www.pattiehandquilts.net/

JANUARY 10 WORKSHOP: ZOOM

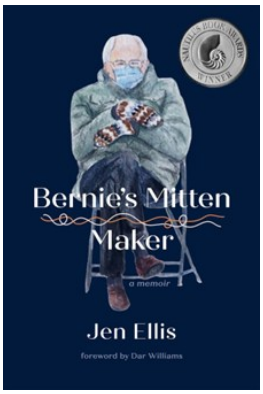
$60 members/$70 non-members
Workshop Description:

MAKE A JAPANESE RICE BAG, KOMEBUKURO: This simple bag has been used for centuries to carry rice from the market to the table. Anyone with basic sewing skills can learn to make one. The first half will concentrate on tracing a traditional Sashiko patterns and embellishing it with Sashiko stitching.
In the second half we will sew together the outside of the bag, the lining and the tabs to thread with rope handles. This can be done by hand or by machine. If you are new to Sashiko or need a brush up in your skills, Pattie will go over the stitches for you and will teach you how to trace and stitch the Sashiko pattern. This is a 6 hour class and the patterns are included. Signup on the website or email Debbie or Mary.

FEBRUARY 3—ZOOM AGAIN!

Pagtinabangay: The Quilts and Quiltmakers of Caohagan Island
Speaker: Dana Jones
You'll be transported to a tiny island — just 13 acres — in the central Philippines as you enjoy images and stories of the colorful quilts and the more than 100 quiltmakers of Caohagan Island. You'll see photos of more than 50 of these handmade, one-of-a-kind quilts plus be introduced to the unique techniques developed by these quiltmakers whose tools are simply fabric and scissors, needle and thread. I spent more than a month on the island, quilted with the residents, went fabric shopping with them on nearby Cebu Island, and snorkeled the reef that surrounds Caohagan. Those who view the quilts come away smiling, inspired by the creativity of these women and men. This lecture is perfect for warming up a winter guild meeting.

March 3—back in-person. Details to follow in the January newsletter!



April 7—in-person meeting.—Jen Ellis of Bernie's mitten fame will be our featured speaker at the April 2026 meeting. To learn more about her and get excited for the program, Mary will have copies of Jen Ellis's book "Bernies' Mitten Maker" for sale at the December meeting. Books are $15

April 24-26 Quilt Show!