



# Champlain Valley Quilters Guild

## January 2026



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I write this, many of you are last minute shopping, wrapping, baking cookies, enjoying the light and magic of the holiday season and most importantly, spending time with family and friends.

Wishing you all many blessings in 2026! I hope you have time to plan, cut and sew, January is a perfect month to spend with so many colorful fabrics, it is a contrast to the VT weather. May you enjoy your sewing space in the coming wintery months.

Looking forward to our January Guild meeting:

January 6, 2026

Quilting Superstars of the Past & How They Changed Quilting

Speaker: Patty Klimek

In addition: January Workshop

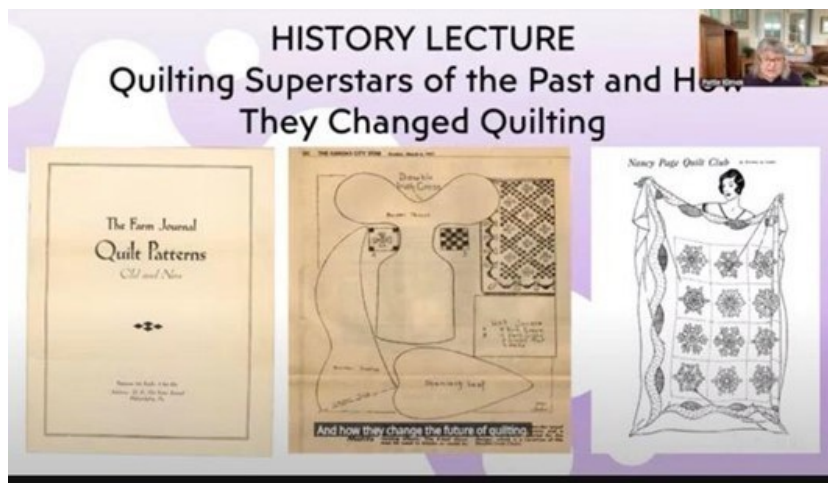
Date: January 10, 2026

Japanese Rice Bag

Thank you to our program leaders.

Joy Schekter, President

**JANUARY 6—MEETING ON ZOOM**  
**6:30 P.M. SIGN IN AND VISIT**  
**7:00 PATTY KLIMEK**



The December meeting was cancelled (snow!!) so no minutes this issue.

## SIGN UP FOR THE JANUARY 10 ZOOM WORKSHOP

Before you bake your next batch of cookies or wrap your remaining presents, sign yourself (and maybe a friend too!) up for the fun workshop that is being offered in January. Rice bags make wonderful project bags to take with you or even a pretty way to separate and organize the many projects you may be working on.

Here are all the details. [It's easy to sign up online by clicking here.](#) The workshop is on Zoom so no need to pack up your sewing machine and tools.

### Workshop: JAPANESE RICE BAG - KOMEBUKURO

**Date: January 10 2026 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Zoom Only—\$60 members; \$70 non-members**

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 pattern 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.

Any questions, please let me know.

Wishing everyone happy holidays!

Marti DelNevo  
CVQG Webmaster

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## 2026 QUILT SHOW UPDATE—April 24-26 at Holy Family Church

Our show is about four months away! I hope you are all working on your quilts to submit to the show. Remember our theme is "Star Struck". It is always fun to have quilts in the show that represent the theme but of course that is **not** a requirement.

Registration will open in **February**. It will once again be all online. You will also be able to sign up to volunteer in February too. You can sign up on line but we will have sign-up sheets at our meetings in March and April.

The committee is working hard behind the scenes. Now you can start to think about how you can help...enter a quilt and volunteer!

Jo Frymire, Show Chair

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## COMMUNITY QUILTS

All the wonderful work the guild does to bring joy, hope and warmth to those in need at Christmas and all year through. These quilts went to several places in December!

We will not have a Sew-In on Friday, January 2. We'll see everyone on Friday, January 16.

Carol Bloomhardt & Audrey Moore  
Community Quilts co-chairs



## **FEBRUARY 3—ZOOM—PAGTINABANGAY: THE QUILTS AND QUILTMAKERS OF CAO HAGAN ISLAND**

Speaker: Dana Jones

After too many years of dreaming about making quilts, I decided it was time to live into that dream in 2003. In 2009, I moved to Colorado where I landed a job as an editor with Quilters Newsletter magazine, and less than a year later, I was running the magazine. I also had the opportunity to do a two-year stint as editor of the SAQA Journal (Studio Art Quilt Associates) before stepping down from that position to research and write my book, *Pagtinabangay: The Quilts and Quiltmakers of Caohagan Island*.



## **MARCH 3—BACK IN PERSON! GATHER AT HOLY FAMILY PARISH HALL AT 6:30, MEETING STARTS AT 7.**

Crazy Quilts and Trunk Show

Speaker: Jane Masenas

**APRIL 7— JEN ELLIS**, creator of Bernie Sanders' iconic mittens. Jen has written a book about her story from being a Vermont teacher, mother, and crafter to being a famous internet phenomenon.

Jen is offering the books at a discount to our members. If you would like a copy, you must go to the CVQG website and pay the cost of the book - \$15 plus a bit for the credit card usage. Then you may pick up your copy at Yankee Pride fabric shop in Essex.

Any questions, contact Mary Neighbours. 802-233-9595 or neighbours.mary@gmail

## **APRIL 24-26—QUILT SHOW!**

**Rita, always smiling!**



After an almost year-long battle with cancer, I'm sorry to share that Rita Bortz, long-time guild member, passed away peacefully this past Monday, November 24, with her husband, Adam, by her side. I'll share information about services when more information is known. Cards may be sent to Adam Bortz, 17 Elsom Parkway, South Burlington, VT 05453.

Rita had been a very active, long-time member of our guild. She participated in many activities; most recently community quilts. Having known Rita for many, many years now, I know she will be missed. Please keep Adam, their four children, and extended family in your thoughts.

Marti DelNevo, CVQG webmaster