

March/April 2011

The NIMBLE THIMBLE

<http://www.nbquilts.org/>



President's Message

Our January Pot Luck was again a wonderful success and a nice chance to relax, socialize, and help with the winter's "cabin fever." Thanks to all of you who did the work to put the event together and to those of you who attended. Prompted by suggestions from three or four people following the event, I sent out an email asking for your feedback and ideas for future pot luck events. Wow! I should do this more often, because I received an avalanche of responses. Fabulous!! Many thanks to those who took the time to respond via email and in person. From the feedback it is pretty clear that you would like a few changes next year. There is overwhelming consensus that we should eliminate the prizes for best decorated table, and to find a way to randomly assign people to tables as they arrive. This would encourage long standing members to spend some time with people they may not know well and would better welcome and integrate new members. While a few of you thought it might be nice to include a short program, most of you favored a game or two to promote the social and interactive nature of the evening. Suggestions we have so far are "QUILTO" and a sort of "20 Questions, Quilter style." The board incorporated the suggestions into a plan for next year.

Have you had enough snow? It is amazing to me that we have not had to cancel an NBQA meeting due to the constant snow this year. Joan Johnson and I decided to make the best of it and try a little snow dyeing. The idea is that the snow puts the dye on the fabric at different rates as it melts. The cold causes the colors to separate out. Here is a picture of one of our pieces. What did you do in the snow!?



Melanie Johnston

Next Meeting:

March 17, 2010

7:00 PM

East Greenwich United Methodist Church

Please Bring:

- Show & Tell items
- Block of the Month
- Fat Quarter of the Month
- Money/checkbook for workshops
- Magazines to swap
- Books and DVDs to return
- Refreshment, if you signed up
- Wear your nametag!



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Narragansett Bay Quilter's Association
GENERAL MEETING
February 17, 2011

President: Melanie Johnston called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Comfort Quilts: Joan Taylor reminded everyone about the Quilt-a-thon on 4/9/11. She also mentioned an upcoming fat quarter fabric challenge for the 2012 quilt show. If there are enough participants, that will be the special exhibit at the show. Fat quarters can be purchased at the May meeting for \$2 each. Nineteen comfort quilts were presented and enthusiastically received by Kelly Cline of Northern RI Visitation Center for Family Resources Community Action in Woonsocket.

Special Events: Louise Pankiewicz said reservations were still being accepted for the cruise to Bermuda on June 12, 2011. She is also taking signups for the bus trip to the Rising Star Quilters Show in Somers, NY on April 30th. The fee is \$45, which will be reduced if we can fill the bus.

Program: Pat Bruno gave a slide and trunk show of her beautiful quilts, which she began making in 1993, when she needed a few Christmas gifts. Pat's quilts have won many ribbons and awards.

Show and Tell: Several Jacob's Ladder tops from the recent workshop were shown, as well as a number of table runners.

Treasurer: Cheryl Martin – Beginning balance \$30,131.39; Income \$1,278.00; Expenses \$4,277.49; Ending balance \$27,131.90.

Library: A list of DVDs will be forthcoming. Those interested in the NBQA collection at the Cranston Public Library can find instructions on the NBQA website for how to search for them.

Hospitality: Thanks to all who answered Dotty's request for extra goodies for tonight's meeting.

Block of the Month: The winner of the Heart blocks was Carmen Hanson. Next month's block is Sunbonnet Sue.

Fat Quarter Drawing: The winner of the pink fat quarters was Joan Johnson. Next month's fat quarter theme is novelty prints.

NEQM: Ginny Perry announced the current exhibit "No Holds Barred" by the NE Studio Art Quilters Association (until April 9th). The museum is looking for entries for the Images show. Ginny also reminded members of the NBQA's silent auction to be held during the May meeting. Please bring a new handmade item to the March or April meeting. A freshly baked good can be submitted at the May meeting. Direct any questions about the silent auction to Ginny or Sue Stedman.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Submitted by Joan Potter, Secretary

Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild Canton, MA

"Traditions and Treasures" Quilt Show

March 19 - 20, 2011, Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm

This show will present hundreds of contemporary and traditional quilts, a large Merchant Mall, handmade bags for sale made by guild members, a boutique, Guild raffle quilt and raffle baskets, and refreshments. Of special interest will be the display of "The Supper Quilt." Designed and made by Dr. Donald Locke with quilting done by world-renowned quilter Linda Taylor, this piece of art is modeled after Leonardo Da Vinci's famous work, "The Last Supper".

Admission: \$7.00 for one-day pass or \$10.00 for two-day pass

Blue Hills Regional Technical School, 800 Randolph Street, Canton, Mass.

2012 Quilt Show Fabric Challenge*Joan Taylor*

The Quilt Show Committee announces a fabric challenge for the 2012 Quilt Show. The guidelines are: all NBQA members are eligible. A recognizable amount of the challenge fabric must appear on the front of the quilt. Fabrics of the maker's choice may be added to the design. The quilted item must be constructed of three layers - top, batting, back - and held together with stitching. The size of the finished item must be not less than 10" x 10" (or a total of 40") and not larger than 36" x 42" (or a total of 160"). There will be a variety of 2012 Quilt Show Challenge ribbons awarded. There will be a charge of \$ 2.00 for the fat quarter. We will have sign up at the March general meeting. The fat quarters will be distributed at the May general meeting.

2012 Spring Quilt-a-thon*Joan Taylor*

Come join the fun Saturday, April 9th, for our Spring Quilt-a-thon. It will be held at the United Methodist Church from 9:30am to 3:30 pm. We will have sign up at the March general meeting again. As always, fabrics will be provided, and a pizza lunch will be provided. We will be donating these quilts to the Providence Ronald MacDonald House. Call Donna Woodworth or Joan Taylor for information.



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Library News*Pat Cole*

NBQA librarian, Pat Cole, has a supply of **Quilting DVDs**. These may be borrowed from Pat at NBQA meetings.

Dorothy Calvano & Maria Knight manage a collection of **other books** not part of the Cranston Library collection. These books may be signed out at an NBQA meeting. Library books left on the same table as the magazine swap needed to be returned, but not the magazines. Library books have a card inside or a label on the binding.

Members in the News

In May 2011, *Quiltmaker Magazine* will be publishing "Quiltmaker's 100 Blocks from Today's Top Designers Volume 3." A block designed by NBQA member and quilt designer, **Pat Harrison**, has been selected for the publication. It should be at quilt shops and newsstands on May 10, 2011 or you may order it online from *Quiltmaker* at that time. The publication includes 100 patterns and a gallery of quilts made from blocks in the issue.

Congratulations to **Pat Ferguson!** See her article on Zen Quilting in the Feb/March issue of *The Quilter Magazine*. Pat is currently writing a Zen Quilting book that will be published by Suzanne McNeill of Design Originals. This is the same company that published "Inspired by Zentangle", a fabric arts book featuring two pages of Pat's Zen Quilts.

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Membership *Gail Macera*

New Associate members

Nancy Turbitt Karen Ouhrabka

Elke Blumstein June Dowiot

Quilt History Part 1 Early American Quilting excerpts from The QuiltersBee

Despite popular belief it is highly unlikely that quilts came on the Mayflower. At that time a quilt was a luxury item and only the very rich possessed them. The Mayflower passengers were neither rich nor ostentatious, being puritans. They probably brought woven coverlets with them. The Virginia settlements probably saw quilts long before the New Englanders. They were more wealthy and more class conscious than the New Englanders. The earliest quilts in America were either made with whole cloth or, more frequently, with the expensive chintzes and calicos that were cut into large pieces and appliquéd into Tree Of Life type designs for quilts, coverlets and bed hangings. The introduction of less expensive colorfast cottons at the end of the eighteenth century set the stage for the explosive growth of the American quilting tradition in the nineteenth century. We have the English, Welsh, and Dutch settlers to thank for introducing quilting to the new world, as they brought a strong quilting tradition with them from their own countries and that tradition spread very rapidly to their friends and neighbors. *to be continued in the next newsletter.*

Fat Quarter of the Month *Sharon Bibeault*

This monthly program, Fat Quarter of the Month, has become a huge success!
 This is how it works:
 A member can bring in fat quarters and will receive a raffle ticket for each fat quarter. At the end of the meeting, one ticket will be drawn to win the whole stash of fat quarters.
 Below are the monthly themes:

March-novelty fabrics
 April-solids
 May-florals

Winter/Spring Workshops!

Thursday & Friday, March 17th & 18th

Christine Fries-Ureel - The Art of Making an Appealing Nature Scene - \$80 for the 2 day class.

Learn how to make beautiful trees, including trunks and large and small branches, using fabric and quilting lines to represent bark textures, contours, and shadowing. Create a hedgehog using free-motion embroidery on water-soluble stabilizer. Everyone will create her own personal little nature scene!

website: <http://www.loveabideth.com/biography>

Thursday, April 21st

Mickey Lawlor - Playing with Paints on Fabric - \$40 + \$12 Lab fee

Students will paint sun-prints, leaf prints, create wonderful textures, garden fabrics, etc. and generally complete about 2 – 4 yards of fabric.

website: <http://www.skydyes.com>

Thursday, May 19th

Pat Livingston - Needleturn Hawaiian Applique - \$35

In this workshop, the concentration will be on cutting, basting and appliquéing a Hawaiian Design. Pat is a member of NBQA.

See the NBQA website for the supply lists for these classes.

To Sign up, call or email:

Janice Cullinane

Ann Anderson

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New England Quilt Museum

Virginia Perry

This year's fund raiser for the museum will be an in house SILENT AUCTION at our May meeting. We are asking for new home made or hand made items. This can be a wall hanging, table runner, tote bag, pocketbook, theme basket, knitted item, home decoration, apron, or food (baked goods, candy, preserves, etc.). If you have another idea and are not sure if it is appropriate, contact me. We would like to have the items brought to the March or April meeting so that we have an idea of how much space we will need. However, if you are donating food, please bring that to the May meeting.

Thanks to all of you, we have done very well in honoring our commitment to the museum. I know the museum appreciates all we do and are using our donations to better the museum. Connie has made many great changes. Please continue to support this worthy cause.

Because of our efforts, we receive many free passes to the museum. If you are interested in seeing the new exhibit - NO HOLDS BARRED - contact me for passes.



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Sun 10:00-4:00

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Don't forget the upcoming **MQX Quilt Show** at the Providence Convention Center. Classes run from April 11th through the 16th. The Public Quilt Show is from April 14th through the 16th.

Share the L-O-V-E the MQX Love, that is!

Share your MQX Experience by using the Refer-A-Friend discount! Get your registration fee FREE when you bring a new friend to take classes. Register online or call Mary toll-free at 866-675-7247.

Block of the Month News

March – Sunbonnet Sue



"That girl with the bonnet", Sunbonnet Sue, Dutch Doll, Bonnie Bonnet, Sun Bonnet Babies... whatever the block pattern is called, the Sunbonnet Sue block is one of the most widely recognized quilt block patterns. Bertha Corbett Melcher is credited as a creator of the Sunbonnet designs. She illustrated children's Primer books in the early 1900s. Her book, "The Sunbonnet Babies" was published in 1900. In this book she depicted girls with their faces hidden by their bonnets. *from SunbonnetSue.com*

April – Knotted Square



Dark blue and cream batiks work well for this project.

If you did not receive a BOM pattern booklet or CD, please get directions from the [NBQA Website](#).

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Quilt a pennant for the 2012 Olympics

In the newest copy of Quilting Arts magazine there was a paragraph about a call to all quilters, fiber artists, etc. to make a pennant for the 2012 Olympics which is being held in London, England. They need 14,000 pennants to be given as mementos to all the athletes participating. The deadline is December 2011. You can find all the details on the web site: www.quilts4london.org.uk. The pennants are to be 12" x 16" and can be any shape. They will be displayed in various sites before the Olympics.

Judy Chase, NBQA

NARRAGANSETT BAY QUILTERS ASSOCIATION 7-NIGHT BERMUDA CRUISE ONBOARD THE CELEBRITY SUMMIT JUNE 12, 2011



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ITINERARY

Day	Ports of Call	Arrival	Departure
Sunday, June 12, 2011	Cape Liberty, Bayonne, N.J.	--	05:00 PM
Monday, June 13, 2011	At Sea	--	--
Tuesday, June 14, 2011	At Sea	--	--
Wednesday, June 15, 2011	Kings Wharf, Bermuda	08:30 AM	--
Thursday, June 16, 2011	Kings Wharf, Bermuda	--	--
Friday, June 17, 2011	Kings Wharf, Bermuda	--	04:30 PM
Saturday, June 18, 2011	At Sea	--	--
Sunday, June 19, 2011	Cape Liberty, Bayonne, N.J.	07:00 AM	--

RATES

Round trip bus from RI to Cruise Port in Cape Liberty, NJ is \$100 per person. Deposit before December 15 and receive \$25 off bus fare.
Call for 3rd and 4th person rates

	Category	Cruise Fare (Per person, includes taxes & fees)
Inside	9	\$984.25
Oceanview	7	\$1,104.25
Balcony	2C	\$1,434.25



Deposit of \$250 per person is required to hold cabin. Rates are subject to availability at the time of booking. Rates subject to possible fuel surcharges, pending oil price increase. Travel insurance is available and recommended. Final payment will be due March 2011.



For reservations or more information,
Contact Cruise Specialist Steve Waldman at
800.827.7779 ext. 4621 or 401.499.6672
swaldman@cruisebrothers.com

Classifieds

Here you will find:

- Quilting groups/mini groups inviting you to participate or drop by.
- NBQA members who run groups or are teaching classes that you are invited to attend.
- Members seeking a particular group or person with certain skills.
- Ads from NBQA members with fabric or other quilting items for sale
- Each NBQA member is allowed 1 free ad per year. Subsequent ads are \$5.00 each or \$25.00 for the year.

If you have a "Classified" you would like to run in the next newsletter, e-mail it to info@nbquilts.org.

Special Events

Louise Pankiewicz

NBQA Special Events has planned a bus trip to the "World of Quilts XXXII" Quilt Show, sponsored by the Northern Star Quilters in Somers, New York. It will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2011. We will leave the Park and Ride on Route 117 in Warwick at 7:30 AM and return at approximately 8:30 PM.

The cost is \$45.00 per person. (A full bus may allow us to reduce the cost of the trip, so please sign up at the next meeting.)

For additional information about the quilt show, visit the guild's website at:

<http://northernstarquilters.com>

A reminder that the NBQA Cruise to Bermuda is still open for quilters and non-quilters alike. Make your reservations soon by calling Steve Waldman at 1-800-827-7779 extension 4621 or 1-401-499-6672. Look for the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter.

From the Editor

Diana Funke

As a member of NBQA, I have the opportunity to attend many excellent workshops. In addition to these workshops, I welcome the opportunity to sign up for classes at quilt shops that advertise in our newsletter. Good thing I am a retired teacher! Check out the classes at Folk Art Quilts, Quilts and More, The Sewing Room, Cotton Theory Quilting and Pat Ferguson Quilts! Look at the other shops that are listed on the Shop Hop brochure and ask if they have newsletters and/or classes. Sign up for their newsletters and/or classes to keep in touch with their upcoming events.

I recently returned from a vacation at the Captiva-Sanibel islands in Florida. The first thing I did after we settled in was to see where the nearest quilt shop was. I found one on Sanibel-Three Crafty Ladies. What a great shop! I won't tell you how much I spent there, and I won't tell my husband, either! I dropped him off at a bookstore so that I could spend all the time I wanted to explore this shop. The fabrics there were bright and colorful batiks and fabrics with typically Floridian themes. I bought pink flamingo fabric, but no alligators! If you ever get the chance to visit Sanibel and Captiva Islands on the Gulf Coast of Florida, stop by their shop. You won't be disappointed. Visit their website at: www.threecraftyladies.com. And be sure to visit the "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge to find inspiration for quilting.



**Narragansett Bay
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New England Quilt Museum

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Lowell is located 28 miles north of Boston off Interstate 93 and 495 and Route 3. Take the Lowell Connector from either Interstate 495 (Exit 35C) or Route 3 (Exit 30N Northbound or 30A Southbound) to Thorndike Street (exit 5B). Go the 6th light and turn right onto Market Street.

Park at street meters, the Leo A. Roy Market Street Garage, or on weekends ONLY, the lot behind the museum on Middle Street.

To drive up to the door, go into the next light into Palmer Street. Go to the next light and turn left onto Merrimack Street. Go to the next corner and turn left onto Shattuck.

January 20 - April 9, 2011

NO HOLDS BARRED

Recent works by New England members of
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Guest curated by Valarie Poitier.

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