



Niles Piecemakers Quilt Guild January 2023

Website: www.nilespiecemakers.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NilesPiecemakersQuiltGuild

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 24, 2023
Hope Community Church
2390 Lake St, Niles, MI

Program: Dye, Paint and Print with Tisha Sandberg

President's Greetings

Greetings,
Happy New Year to each of you.

Hope your holiday was everything you expected it to be. It will be good to see everyone again.

Our program sounds very interesting. You won't want to miss it.

So everyone has had a lot of time to work on quilts, show and tell should be amazing. It should be a very exciting evening. We have so much to talk about.

Sincerely,
Sara

Possible change of meeting day

Hope Community Church has given us the option of changing back to Monday meeting nights. The board feels that this decision is one our membership should make, so we will vote on it.

If you will NOT be at the meeting this month on Tuesday, January 24, email or call Beth at 574-220-0116 with your vote and she will record it.

If you ARE at the meeting, you will vote as you arrive by marking a special attendance sheet with your choice: Monday, Tuesday or Either. If you really don't care which evening we meet, please be sure to mark Either. We know there are some members who have reasons why one or the other is better and we'd like their wishes to count the most.

Bylaws

January is the month when we discuss making changes to the Bylaws. I have attached a copy of the current Bylaws to this email. If you want to receive a paper copy please call Beth at 574-220-0116 and she will mail it to you. It is too thick to mail with the newsletter.

We will discuss any proposed changes in January and vote in February as prescribed by the Bylaws.

One change is being proposed by the board. The current wording is shown below with changes in red. Last year we changed the term of office for the Officers and have realized that the wording of this paragraph doesn't fit the situation well since they start and end in the middle of the year. We will be looking for the next slate of officers fairly soon and this might act as a SMALL incentive!

Article XIV Dues for Past Officers

All **outgoing** officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer will have their Guild membership dues ~~paid for the first year out of office~~ forgiven while in office as a Thank You for their years of service to the Guild.

Show & Tell – Procedure Reminder

It seemed to go smoothly in November, so we will continue to do it this way. It is repeated here one more time to be sure it's not a surprise.

There will be two sections on the sign-in sheet at the front table: one for Charity Quilts and one for Show & Tell. This helps the secretary with the minutes mainly. If you bring both, please sign in each section.

Sara will ask all charity quilts to come forward WITHOUT calling names. You will simply come forward and stand in line at the front while we admire your work and pictures are taken for our Facebook page.


Then Sara will ask that all Show & Tell quilts come forward, again without calling names. We ask that you line up on the right side of the stage (from your point of view). The first person will stand far enough back so that everyone can see while standing in line and not block the view of people who are seated. Then you will go to the center of the stage one at a time and show your work. Sara will hold the microphone so that you can say your name and tell a bit about your quilt. If standing for long is a problem, you can remain seated until the line is rather short and then join it.

We still appreciate your feedback about this procedure! Tell us how we can do it better!
Only comment so far: A few people mentioned that most of us forgot to say our name last time, so we will try to remember to do that!

Charity Quilts

I recently watched a video where "homemade" items truly meant something to women recovering from trauma.

Therefore, I NEED to thank our guild for each and everyone who contributed to our donated quilts- from donating fabric to snipping threads!

Thank you for giving your love to others 
Nancy Dunning

Workshop Details- by Annette Blaschuk

Saturday, January 14th Workshop: 10am to 4pm

1. We will be making hot dog pillowcases for the Quilt of Valor quilts; fabric will be provided, or you can bring your own fabric to learn this technique: red, white, blue and gold.
 - Main body of pillowcase fabric 27 ½ by 41 inches
 - Border or cuff: 11 by 41 inches
 - Flange: 2 ½ by 41 inches (optional)
2. We will also be making 20x20 to 24x24 small quilts for the NICU. We will provide the batting and backing for these small quilts, plus some fabric to learn “quilt as you go” designs using up your leftover bindings from former quilts.
3. Then we will make some of the 5 inch flannel hearts for the NICU.

What a fantastic way to start the New Year by helping others. Bring your sewing machine, neutral thread and we will sew, sew, sew!

Remember to bring your lunch and drink. It feels like forever since we have gotten together, so I am sure some conversing will be going on while we sew 😊 See you Saturday.

Saturday, February 18th Workshop and March 18th Workshop: Calling all members

These workshops will be dedicated to making the drapes for our new quilt racks. We have all the fabric, thread and twin needles needed to complete these drapes. Also, we have already rented them to the Quilt Expo in June, so we need to get them completed ASAP.

At the January guild meeting there will be a sign-up sheet. If you cannot attend, notify Annette Blaschuk and sign up to help. We will need 20+ ladies to work in teams to:

- **Measure fabric**, from 80 to 108 inches (bring tape measures we can tape to the tables)
- **Cut fabric** (bring your favorite rotary cutter) We will supply cutting boards but we need long rulers
- **Mark fabric** for hem and sleeve (bring white Chaco Liner Pen style marking tools)
- **Pin the hems and sleeves**, (bring a large pin cushion, we have lots of pins)
- We need **4 to 6 sewing machines** that will take a twin needle and 2 spools of thread. And sewers to man them!

When the drapes are completed, we will continue to make charity quilts at our workshops and continue quilting education.

Two Challenges This Year! Reminder...

Mystery Quilt Challenge - This month's directions are for Block 4. You will get printed copies if you've requested them. And it's not too late to request printed copies. Just notify Beth Raker.

There are 8 blocks with the finishing instructions in the 9th month. The finished quilt will be 55 x 73 thanks to the way the blocks are set. Note: I've been asked if the size is a mistake since there are only 9 blocks.

UFO Challenge

Each time you show a TOTALLY FINISHED UFO at guild meeting, you have the option of giving Robin your name and a dollar for the drawing.

Sewing Tip – How to keep track of pieces if your design wall is nonexistent or too far from your machine. I don't have a good place for a design wall near my machine. I've tried various methods of keeping track of pieces and this way is my favorite. Beth Raker

I made a pincushion with numbered sections. I used a very fine Sharpie to put numbers on flower head pins. The colors of the pins are random. (Much cheaper than buying the already labeled pins!) The empty numbers in the picture are because I already have those pins in the blocks I'm working on.



I marked the top of the pincushion with the fine Sharpie. It really helps to have designated sections so that you aren't constantly looking for a particular number. In the beginning I just stuck the pins in a regular pincushion but then I wasted time finding the right ones when pinning.

I put a pin on both sides of every seam. You can work across or down, but I mostly work down in columns but that's just personal preference. *In this picture I've drawn in pins as the real pins can't be read in the photograph.*



At the machine I just match up numbers and sew. If I drop them on the floor, no problem! It's easy to figure out where the pieces belong. I take the pins out as I go. I am right-handed so all my pins point from right to left, so the pin also shows me the right orientation. I can walk away for a day or two and still know where I am.

Here is a pair of pieces I've already sewn. The pins that are still there show where they go. You probably can't read it, but the pins say 3 & 4. I've already sewn 1 & 2 and 5 & 6.



Once the blocks are done, I can do the same thing with whole blocks in columns or rows.

GUILD MEETINGS - 4th Tuesday of each month (maybe!)

Check in, social hour and vending 6 PM – 7 PM.

Business Meeting, Show & Tell, Program starting at 7 PM.

- **January 24** - Dye, Paint and Print with Tisha Sandberg
We saw a large number of quilts at Grand Rapids which used these techniques and several members said they'd be interested in knowing more about the technique.

About Tisha:

I love to create and have done art and craft of one kind or another for as long as I can remember. Whatever the materials, I "construct" my pieces, many times starting out with no more than a basic idea and letting the piece tell me where it wants to go. It may be a small scrap of fabric that I like the shape and color of, paper that has a wonderful texture or something I see in the world outside my window.

My art-making involves tools and techniques that are a combination of many varied interests: painting, printing, drawing, stitching, hand-dyeing, beading, I'm open to just about anything and love finding ways to utilize scraps and other items that would usually be thrown away.

I currently work from a home studio in Chicago, IL and studio space at the Box Factory for the Arts in St. Joseph, MI. (<https://boxfactoryforthearts.org>)

- **Future Dates:** Currently February 28, March 28, April 25, May 23 but this may change depending on the vote!

WORKSHOPS & MORE - Get the dates on your calendar now! Details will be provided as the dates approach. These dates or details could change as the time gets nearer so always check the most recent newsletter for current information.

- **January 14** – Lots of fun projects. See note from Annette
- **February 18** – Make draperies for quilt racks. See note from Annette.
- **March 18** – Make more draperies for quilt racks
- **April 15**
- **May 20** – This date has been changed from May 13. If you already marked your calendar be sure to correct this one!
- **June 17**
- **July 15**
- **Quilt Show – Mark your calendar!!**
October 19, 2023 – Setup
October 20 & 21, 2023 – Show

PUBLIC EVENTS

Indiana Heritage Quilt Show

March 2-4, 2023, Thursday & Friday 9-5, Saturday 9-4

Monroe Convention Center, 302 South College Ave, Bloomington, IN 47403

<https://www.ihqs.org/> - There are a number of workshops including a Featherweight maintenance class.

Quilts Along the Wildcat – 9th Biennial Quilt Show

April 14-15, 2023, 9 am to 5 pm each day

UAS 685 Hall, 929 E. Hoffer St, Kokomo, IN

Admission is \$8. Check Facebook for details: Kokomo Piecemakers Quilt Show

They also have a blog at KokomoPiecemakersQuiltGuildBlog.com

Elkhart County Quilt & Fiber Expo

June 8 - 10, 2023

June 8 – 9, 9:00 a.m. -- 5:00 p.m.

June 10, 9:00 a.m. -- 3:00 p.m.

The Event Center – RV/MH Hall of Fame, 21565 Executive Pkwy, Elkhart, IN 46514

<https://www.visitelkhartcounty.com/events/elkhart-county-quilt-fiber-expo/>

A Shop Hop will also be going on from June 7 – 10. More details will be shared in the spring.

Fort Wayne Quilt Fest- presented by Appleseed Quilters Guild

June 16, 9-5 & June 17, 9-4

Grand Wayne Convention Center in downtown Fort Wayne

<https://www.fwquiltfest.com/>

One Stop Quilt Shop Hop

July 21, 9-5 & July 22, 9-4

Honeywell Center, 275 West Market St, State Rd 15, Wabash, IN 46992

<https://www.nancyjsfabrics.com/quilt-shop-hop.htm> - Their site has a link to the Facebook page.

Heritage Quilters of Crown Point, IN present “Welcome Home to Quilting”

October 7, 10-5 & October 8, 10-4

Lake County Fairgrounds, Industrial Building, 889 S. Court St, Crown Point, IN 46307

<https://www.heritagequilters.com/>

AND, of course, our very own quilt show on October 20 & 21. We will be setting up on October 19.

Happy Birthday to Our Members!

Please notify Beth Raker if your birthday is missing or incorrect.

<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>
7 – Linda George	2 – Bettye Green
7 – Julie Farver	6 – Barbara Wilson
11 – Ruth Sriver	11 – Carol Ann Mooney
14 – Lista Duren	25 – Jan Holdeman
23 – Patti Vollmer	26 – Annette Blaschuk
28 – Arlene Richardson	25 – Melissa Adams
	26 – Lola Woolett
	28 – Mary Lou Hessey

The November Meeting Minutes are attached.

Treasurer's Report - January 2023	
11/1/22 - Overall Beginning Balance	\$ 2,521.18
INCOME:	
Donations	\$ 1,270.00
Dues	\$ 240.00
EXPENSES	
Raffle Quilt Expenses	\$ 169.76
Quilt Show Rental Fee to Hope United Methodist	\$ 150.00
Business Cards for Advertising our Guild	\$ 55.10
Drape Fabric for Tall Racks	\$ 650.00
Checks – Printing Fee	\$ 21.30
License for Trailer (Lifetime license)	\$ 75.00
12/31/2022 - Checking Account Balance	\$ 2,284.71
Savings Account Balance:	\$ 475.68
Overall Ending Balance	\$ 2,760.39

MEMBER NEWS – Please let one of our officers know of any news!

Nancy Nimtze has pins and a cast on her right-hand little finger after a fall. Luckily, that's the worst that happened but it's not an easy thing either. Earl is also doing much better after some ill health.

MEMBER CONCERNS

Please let the board know of any concerns or questions you might have.

Sara Shrock..... (269) 235-0161 – President
Robin English..... (269) 663-3303 – Vice President
Beth Raker..... (574) 220-0116 – Treasurer and Newsletter Editor
Nancy Nimtze..... (269) 635-3896 – Secretary – Shared
Sally Hanson..... (574) 339-2475 – Secretary – Shared

Please send information to Virginia Kraft if you hear of a member who could use a card from the Guild. Her address is 31224 Worrell St, Niles, MI, 49120, or call 574-274+1692 (cell)

We meet on the 4th Tuesday of every month; except we do not meet in December. (This may change!)

Visitors are welcome and can attend two meetings without joining. Membership dues are \$30 per year and the year is from August through July. Seniors ages 80+ pay half dues. Dues are also prorated for new members by the half year. So any new members joining in August through January pay full dues, but in February through July will pay half dues.



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Note from Beth – During that bad weather in December I was lucky enough to have PLENTY of fabric on hand. It pays to be prepared. I hope you were equally lucky.

