



# BITS & PIECES

Holly Berries Quilt Guild  
P.O. Box 516  
Mashpee, MA 02649-0516

[www.hollyberryquilters.com](http://www.hollyberryquilters.com)  
[hollyberryquilters@gmail.com](mailto:hollyberryquilters@gmail.com)  
Spring 2023 Volume 37

## President's Message



I think we all thought that Spring was coming. At least the sun is higher and bright and we will be springing the clocks ahead on March 12 so we know Spring will be here at one point. I think we are feeling more energized with the lighter mornings and evenings. Going to bed at 8 p.m. was getting old!

In January and February, we had fantastic in-house programs. Such talent! Mary Ann's demo on string quilts drew great interest. Cathy Williamson's trunk show had us in awe. Definitely the mind of an artist. Again, the Valentine's Day Tea Party was such a treat with the beautiful teacup collection from Cindy Harris and the amazing desserts and tea sandwiches. The Hospitality Committee is always worried that we will leave hungry! Far from it.

Penny and Louise's in-house demo on the 60 degree ruler and four patch kaleidoscope blocks had everyone's mind working as we all were thinking what we could do with striped fabric. It was fun to play with the 60 degree triangles and the different designs of the table toppers that can be made by rearranging them.

The 2023 Raffle Quilt, "Stars Over Cape Cod" was on display and received lots of "oohs" and "ahs." The background and beautiful quilting pulled the quilt together amazingly.

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We are all looking forward to the March-June programs where we have outside talent coming. The Finished Product Auction is always fun as it is fun to bid on and win something you did not make ! The array of items is so wide-ranging and interesting. Hmmmm, will we have any bidding wars?

Please look at the open positions for the 2023-2024 year. Volunteering is a wonderful way to get to know members. New ideas and new volunteers are the lifeblood of the guild. Don't be hesitant or afraid to volunteer as there is always a member you can go to with questions.

Thank you all for your support. Such a fun, friendly group.

*-Gail*

## Upcoming Programs

March 9 - For our "out of the box" meeting, we will have a talk by Carol Cameron from McKnits on her process of dyeing yarn. Carol will also be vending some of her beautiful yarns. (<https://www.etsy.com/shop/mcknits>)

March 23 - Diana Annis from Norton will give a trunk show on the history of Red-work.

April 13 - Pat Harrison will do a trunk show entitled "From Then Till Now—100 Pounds of Quilts" (<https://www.oceanwavesqc.com>)

April 27 - Michelle Banton will present a trunk show called "Looking Great, Dresden Plate"

([www.littlepupdesigns.com](http://www.littlepupdesigns.com))

May 11 - Finished Product Auction

May 25 - Heidi Profetty will do a trunk show on her Mosaic Quilts (<https://www.heidiproffetty.com/>)

June 8 - Year-end Party, Mystery Quilt and Challenge Quilt Reveal

—*Mary Ann Karpinski*  
Programs Co-Chair

Correction: Marjatta Gladding's first name was misspelled in the article on local long-arm quilters in the last issue. Here is the correct information:

Marjatta Gladding  
33 Bracken Fern Road  
Sandwich, MA 02648  
508-428-4330

## Making Knit Hats for Donations

Whether you invest in some of Carol Cameron's dyed yarns or just have some leftover yarns you can't bear to throw out, you might like to make a cap to keep someone less fortunate warm. Here are the directions for the knit caps that Mary Ann Karpinski makes by the dozen.



Here are Mary Ann's easy directions:

You can use worsted weight acrylic or wool. Grab scraps of yarn from your stash and make your hat all different colored strips, or make it plain. It's up to you.

Use size 8 circular needles, size 8 double pointed needles and worsted yarn. Cast on 72 (76, 80) on circular needle. K1, P1 for 10 rows. Then knit the body of the hat for a total of 40 (44, 48) rows. Switch to double pointed needles. Knit 2 together for 1 row, knit row. Continue these 2 rows till there are 8 (9, 10) stitches left. Cut tail and pull through stitches and tie off. Add a pom pom. I just change up the yarns and make misc. rows of colors.

If you don't have circular needles you can use straight needles and for the body just knit one row and purl one row for a total of 40 (44, 48) rows. You'll just have a seam to sew up.



## *Tea, Madam?*

Downton Abbey has nothing on the ladies of the Holly Berry Quilt Guild! Thanks to the efforts and elegant good taste of our wonderful hospitality team (Maryann Bowman, Linda Maddaluno, Becky Pitruzzello, and Pat Wahlberg) and the talents of our many tea-sandwich makers and bakers, our annual tea party was again a great success.

Most members arrived dressed in red and pink shades and many wore fascinators, often hand-made. They found tables decorated with pink tablecloths and heart-shaped doilies, and equipped with all the necessities: teapots, assorted teas, sugar, cream, napkins. Best of all were the delicate teacups and saucers generously lent by member and collector Cindy Harris.

On the tables in front of the room were delicious tea sandwiches and other delicacies, and after members enjoyed those, there were many cookies, tarts, and other excellent desserts to sample.



### *Mark Your Calendars...*

...with these confirmed Guild meeting dates:

Meeting Days

March 9  
March 23

April 13  
April 27

May 11  
May 25

Luncheon

Project Days

March 2  
March 16

April 6  
April 20

May 4  
May 18

June 8





## Quilt As You Go String Blocks

At the January 12th meeting Mary Ann Karpinski demonstrated a great way to use up the miscellaneous strip scraps we all have in our stash. The blocks she demonstrated were done using the quilt-as-yougo method (QAYG), You layer a backing square and batting slightly larger than your finished block will be; your blocks can be any size you want. Then flip and sew strips to the sandwich.



There are quite a few sites online that demonstrate how this is done. Here are a few that are easy to follow:

<https://www.alandacraft.com/?s=quilt+as+you+go+block+%231>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BccuA8\\_Yvms](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BccuA8_Yvms)

When your square is completely covered with strips, trim it neatly.



This video shows how to sew your finished blocks together.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ji8BLS2rNHA>

Grab your strip scraps, batting scraps and misc. squares for your backing and have fun.

—Mary Ann Karpinski

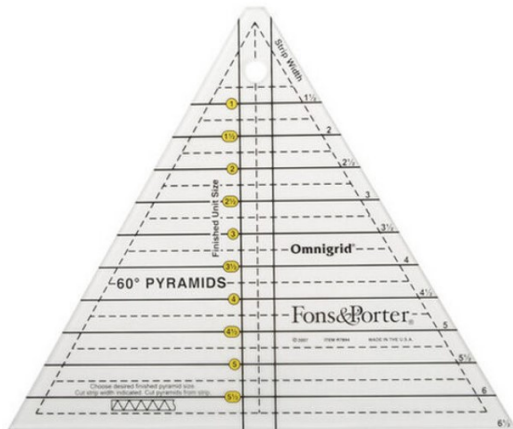




## 60° Ruler Work and Four-Patch Kaleidoscopes

Our in-house demos continued this month with a workshop on the 60° ruler and the four-patch kaleidoscope, presented by Penny Bartlett and Louise Prussack. Some members shared their work with 60° rulers, as you can see from the pictures on this page. They look complicated, but the construction is actually easier than you would expect

The ruler is an equilateral triangle that comes in several sizes. Here's an example:



The secret is cutting beautiful striped fabric very carefully with this ruler, and then rotating the cut pieces to form a hexagon like the one Gail is holding.



One is not limited to hexagons, however. Take a look at these more complex designs that were shown at the demo:



Many commercial patterns are available for table toppers and runners like these, and you can use the same technique to make a full quilt. If you missed the demo, you can find an excellent video on this at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K2x2II6T60Q>.

Four-patch kaleidoscopes are even simpler. Using the "Stack and Whack" method with four layers, line up the fabric very carefully and then cut squares. Match four squares to form a kaleidoscope. The beginning of the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CwfdLNjxdo&t=387s> teaches how to cut and assemble them, if you need to review the directions from the demo or if you were unable to attend. Here are two of Penny's lovely blocks:



If you don't want to cut your own, member Ellen Flaherty recommends [www.labfabrics.com](http://www.labfabrics.com), which has pre-cut fabrics and free downloadable patterns for kaleidoscopes.

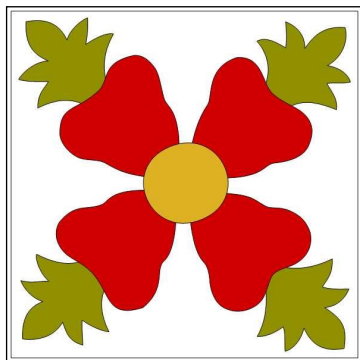
## Are You Rising to the Challenge?

### Holly Berry Quilt Guild 2022-2023 Challenge

#### "Can you smell the flowers?"

Do you have a stash of floral fabrics? Do you have a flower pattern you've always wanted to try? Do you like the challenge of creating your own floral design? Go wherever your imagination takes you! We encourage everyone in the guild to participate in this challenge.

**#1 RULE: HAVE FUN!!!** Use your imagination! Your creation can be traditional or contemporary.

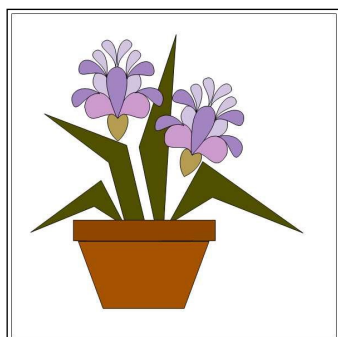
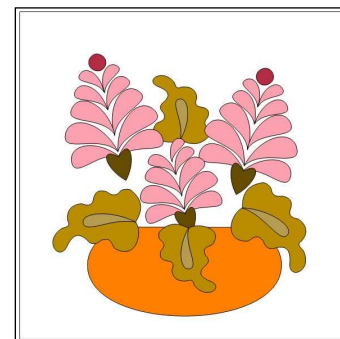


**REQUIRED!** *Your challenge must include at least one flower somewhere on the front of your quilted item.* Your flower(s) can be pieced, appliqued, a floral fabric, modern or contemporary.

**Item Selection:** Your challenge can be a quilt, wall hanging, table runner or tote bag but it must be a "quilt"...3 layers including front, back and batting and quilted.

**Finished Size:** Your challenge can be any finished size you want.

**Methods of Construction:** You are free to use whatever construction or quilting methods work best for your creation (i.e., machine pieced, hand pieced, paper pieced, machine appliquéd, hand appliquéd, machine or hand quilted, etc.). We encourage you to challenge yourself and be creative.



**Fabric Requirement:** You can use whatever fabrics you want in your challenge. Your fabrics do not all have to be 100% cotton. There is also no limit to the total number of fabrics or kinds of fabrics used in your challenge.

**Embellishments:** Embellishments are optional.

**Due Date:** Completed challenges will be revealed at our June 8, 2023 guild meeting.

If you have any questions about the challenge, please contact Mary Ann Karpinski at [maktjk9@aol.com](mailto:maktjk9@aol.com) or 508-747-0629.



## Member News

### Some Very Special Quilts

Our 2023 Raffle Quilt, shown at right, was made under the leadership of Penny Bartlett, Nancy Devere, Gail Goraj, Marge Overholtz, and Nancy Rupert. Bright stars on a soft blue background—what could be more appealing?

Please remember the financial implications of the raffle quilt. We voted this year to donate a minimum of \$800 to the Fairgrounds. As Gail pointed out in her email, we now have only 60 members compared to the 80 we had previously, so the usual number of raffle tickets sold with membership renewals will not generate as much money as before. If everyone will sell one extra book of raffle tickets, that will pay for the cost of the quilt and our donation to the Fairgrounds.



Kathleen O'Grady (above) shows the quilt presented to her by the Guild. She is thrilled with the quilt, which is a perfect size to put on her lap while watching television. Anna Barrows, another long-time member, was also given a quilt in recognition of her service to the guild.



### Sewing Machine Repair

Anthony Ferranti will be coming to Holly Berry Quilt Guild on Thursday, April 6, to clean sewing machines. (April 6th is a project day.) He can clean nine sewing machines during this meeting. He gave us a price of \$140.00 per machine. You can drop your machine off at 8:45 a.m. and come back to pick it up at 3:15 p.m. Your name and phone number should be on your machine in case he has to contact you.

Anthony has serviced many of our members sewing machines and he received glowing reviews. If you cannot do it on this day, Anthony will even come to your house to repair your machine if you call him at the number below.

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## **HOLLYBERRY QUILT GUILD**

### **PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS**

**President: OPEN**

The President presides over the general meetings following Roberts Rules of Order, puts the agenda together, delegates items and directs members' concerns to the appropriate committee(s). May appoint working groups as needed.

**Vice-President: Marge Overholtz**

The Vice-President shall preside over meetings in the absence of the President and assist the President in any way that is necessary.

**Secretary: Michelle Allen**

The Secretary records the minutes of the meetings and give a copy to the President.

**Treasurer: Penny Bartlett**

The Treasurer records income and expenses for the guild and keeps track of the expenses for the committees. Gives a current balance at the meetings.

**Committee Chairs:**

Comfort Quilts: Micki Tor and Jean Weinrich

Historian: Pam Mulveyhill

Hospitality: Pat Wahlerg. **(We need two or three more.)**

Librarian: Ann Giuggio

Ruler Library: **OPEN**

Membership: Deborah Winograd

Newsletter: Eileen Mattingly

Monthly Raffle: Micki Tor

Mystery Quilt: Penny Bartlett

Programs: Deborah Winograd and Conny Doty

Raffle Quilt Chairperson(s): Deborah Winograd and Gail Goraj

Next year's Raffle Quilt Chairperson(s) for 2025: **OPEN**

Raffle Quilt permit and printing of tickets: Marilyn DeCoste

Person overseeing Raffle Quilt tickets: Marilyn DeCoste

Secret Sister: Donna Mattison Earls

Sunshine: Karen Lovely

Ways and Means: Mary Ann Karpinski. **(We need other volunteers for this.)**

Organizing bus trips: **OPEN**

Accuquilt GO Cutter (Electric): Penny Bartlett

Barnstable County Fair quilt committee: Cindy Harris, Karen Schlueter, Michele Allen

**(We need one more.)**

Finished Product Auction: **OPEN**



**Holly Berry Quilt Guild Officers, 2022-2023****President** Gail Goraj (508) 444-6239**Vice President** Marge Overholtz (508) 524-5374**Secretary** Michele Allen (860) 305-2284**Treasurer** Penny Bartlett (508) 477-8559**Chairpersons****Programs** Mary Ann Karpinski**Sunshine** Karen Lovely**Newsletter** Eileen Mattingly**Librarians** Ann Guiggio, Debra Bisacchi**Facebook/Website/Historian** Pam Mulveyhill**Ruler Lending Library** Open**Hospitality** Maryann Bowman, Linda Maddaluno,  
Becky Pitruzzello, Pat Wahlberg**Membership** Deborah Winograd**Comfort Quilts** Micki Tor and Jean Weinrich**Raffle Tickets - Permitting, Printing, and Selling at Meeting** Marilyn DeCoste**Raffle Quilt 2022 -2023** Penny Bartlett, Nancy Devere,  
Gail Goraj, Marge Overholtz, Nancy Rupert**Raffle Quilt 2023-2024** Deborah Winograd**Barnstable County Fair** Open**Secret Sister** Donna Mattison Earls**Ways & Means** Member Volunteers**Auction** Members**Monthly Raffle** Micki Tor**Mystery Quilt 2022-2023** Penny Bartlett**Accuquilt GO Cutter (Electronic)** Penny Bartlett**Accuquilt GO Cutter (Manual and Dies)** Gail Goraj**Quilt Shows Coming Soon****Rhododendron Needlers  
Quilt Guild  
A Community of Quilters****March 18-19, 2023**Blue Hills Regional Technical High School  
800 Randolph St.  
Canton MA<https://www.rnqg.org/>

Admission: \$10

**Quinobequin Quilters  
Auction**

April 11, 2023

Congregational Church of Needham  
1154 Great Plain Ave (at the corner of Linden  
St.)

Needham MA 02492

<https://www.quinobequin.org/>

Free admission

**Hands All Around 18  
Quilt Show****April 22 - 23, 2023**Robert Crowne Gymnasium  
Hampshire College  
893 West St-Route 116  
Amherst, MA<http://www.handsacrossthevalley.org/>

Admission: \$10; 12 and under free, Students and Military \$5

Please send submissions to  
*BITS & PIECES*  
to Eileen Mattingly  
[eileenmattingly@yahoo.com](mailto:eileenmattingly@yahoo.com)  
Deadline for the summer issue is  
**June 1.**

