

Franklin County Quilters Guild

SUGARHOUSE GAZETTE

Saint Albans, Vermont

<http://www.franklincountyquilters.org>

franklincountyquilters@gmail.com



Volume 18, Issue 11
July 2026

Co-Presidents

Jean Anne Branch
Cindy Metayer

Vice President

Bonnie Evans

Secretary

Deb Trahan

Treasurer

Deb Dusablon

Newsletter

Sharon Perry

Programs

Helen Short
Cathy Carlson

Project Coordinator

Sandy Lane

Membership

Penny LaRochelle

Quilt Show

Diane Kane
Beth Mouser

Website

Scott Perry

Comfort Quilts Coordinator

Denise Chase

2027 Raffle Quilt

Cindy Metayer

2027 Charity Quilt

Helen Bicknell & Lucie Fortin

President's Piece

Welcome, July!!! Summer is really here!! Hip, hip, hooray!!

What happens in July always warms my heart. People gather all over the country, from the smallest towns to the largest cities to celebrate us.... The US of A! Parades, picnics, fireworks, bake sales, fairs.... The opportunities are countless. We hope you found a way to celebrate who we are as a country, a state and a community.

Speaking of celebrating a community, we cannot thank The Vermont Quilt Show organizers and our organizational team enough. What a show! Quilters from all over the country flocked to Vermont to check out our quilts and they were in awe. You've done it again, FCQG members! You dazzled the viewers with our talents and that theme! Wow... people were collectively impressed with the gorgeous bows made by our team. Thank you to everyone who pitched in to set up, monitor, sell tickets and take down. It took a huge group effort.

Sharon Perry, Denise Chase and Helen Short: you are to be commended and recognized for all you did to show us off with a flare. Because of your efforts, you gave our Guild the opportunity to shine... from sea to shining sea! Thank you.

Piece by piece,

Jean Anne Branch
2025-2026 Co-President

Cindy Metayer
2025-2026 Co-President



2026 Guild Calendar

January: NO MEETING

January 31st: Sew-In at NMC Conference Room,
8am – 4pm

February: NO MEETING

February 28th: Sew-In at NMC Conference Room,
8am – 4pm

March 11th: What Do Judges Look for When They
Examine Your Quilt?
with Denise Chase

March 14th: Sew-In at NMC Conference Room, 8am
– 4pm

April 8th: It's All About Labels with Carolyn Babcock
& Sharon Perry

2026 Guild Calendar

April 10th: Quilt Show Set Up

April 11th – 12th: Quilt Show

May 13th: Sharing Techniques
through Guild Members'
Demonstrations

June 10th: Potluck and Trunk Sale

June 18th – 20th: The Vermont Quilt Show
DoubleTree by Hilton, Burlington

**July 8th: The Temperature is Burning
Strip Poker with Red, White and Blue
2½-inch by WOF strips**

August 12th: Scrap Quilting with Lisa Torres

2026 Guild Calendar

September 9th: Novelty Ice Cream
Social and Reveal of Members' Creations
from Snip, Rip, Drop and Pass

October 9th: "Thread, What's the Big Deal"
with Nina Clotfelter

October 10th: How to Free Motion Quilt on
Your Domestic Machine Workshop
with Nina Clotfelter

November 11th: More Panel Play (Reveal) and
QOV Presentations

December 9th: Pot Luck with Gift
Exchange and Food Shelf Drive and
Quilted Jacket Show and Tell

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JULY 2026**FRANKLIN COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD****Treasurer's Report -- July 8, 2026**

Opening Balance	\$13,561.76
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Funds collected

CVQG QS pole security refund	\$50.00
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Trunk Show sales	\$515.00
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Membership	\$25.00
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Donation (VQS)	\$10.00
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Raffle ticket sales (VQS)	\$577.00
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<i>Total Funds Collected</i>	<u>\$1,177.00</u>
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<i>Subtotal</i>	\$14,738.76
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Funds paid out

Sharon Perry, raffle tickets	\$94.95
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The Memphremagog Press, VQS banners	\$53.00
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Andrea Blaisdell, QS Welcome sign	\$58.85
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City of St Albans, QS'27 Hall rental 04/01 - 04/04	\$781.25
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VQS table & chairs rental	\$58.00
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<i>Total Funds Paid Out</i>	<u>\$1,046.05</u>
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Grand Total	\$13,692.71
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2026 YTD Collections: \$7,364.00

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah L. Dusablon, Treasurer

RAFFLE QUILT TICKETS FOR ENOSBURG FOOD SHELF AVAILABLE

April Walker will be selling raffle tickets at the July meeting for the quilt the guild donated to the Enosburg Food Shelf for its fundraising efforts. The tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS**By Helen Short**

July's Program is 'The Temperature is Rising Strip Poker'. Members are asked to bring a total of 12 Red, White, and Blue 2.5in by WOF strips to the July meeting. In this newsletter are a few links to patterns for making quilts with Jelly Rolls.

[Quilts of Valor \(QOV\)](#) should be a minimum of 55 by 65 inches and a maximum of 72 by 90 inches. The red, white, and blue colors are very popular with recipients. Our November meeting will feature Lynn Carrier, Vermont's QOV Coordinator, assisting us with awarding quilts to area veterans. Please let Helen Short know if you plan to make a QOV to be awarded in November so we can secure enough veteran recipients. The guild will work with the Legion for veterans' names. If you need a QOV label, please ask Helen Short.

Lisa Torres attended The Vermont Quilt Show and has exciting ideas about her presentation to the guild on August 12th. Some of us attended a lecture on 'Wearable Quilts' at the Show and learned some inspiring ideas. The speaker has a website, CrankyKangaroo.com. There are photos of her creations and a pattern that can be purchased. There's another designer called Crinkle Dreams that has a pattern for the "[Elemental Coat](#)." Quilters Corner in Middlebury regularly offers a program on how to repurpose a sweatshirt into a quilted jacket. I met the instructor at The Vermont Quilt Show when I complimented her on her jacket.

Our Ice Cream Social will be on September 9th. Members can show their "Snip, Rip, Drop, and Toss" creations as well. I'm sure there are some "over achieving" members who have their Panel Quilts completed for November. For those of us that tucked the panel and coordinating fabrics away, it's getting time to take them out and determine what you are going to do with them.

On October 10th there will be a workshop on Free Motion Quilting on your Domestic Machine with Nina Clotfelter. If you'd like to enroll, please send your check for \$45 to Deb Dusablon at 456 Savage Point Road, North Hero, VT, 05474 by August 1st when the workshop will open up to other Guilds.

Happy July 4th!

FREE JELLY ROLL QUILT PATTERNS

There are loads of free patterns using Jelly Rolls on the internet. Do a Google search for "free Jelly Roll patterns" if you don't like any of those listed below.

From the Fat Quarter Shop:

- [Jelly Roll Twist](#) (Click pink Download Free PDF button)
- [Jelly Roll Jam](#) (Click pink Download Free PDF button)
- [Jelly Roll Railway](#) (Click pink Download Free PDF button)
- [Jelly Roll Sizzle](#) (Click pink Download Free PDF button)

From Moda Fabrics:

- [Savannah Squares](#)
- [Cross the Line](#)
- [Chain of Fools](#)
- [Illusion](#)

From Jelly Roll Fabric:

- [Lilac Maze](#)
- [Fresh Laundry](#)
- [Daisy Trail](#)
- [Candy Striper](#)



JUST ASK SALLY MAGUNDI

Dear Sally:

Recently I was at a quilt retreat and in the middle of the sewing instructions the initials of President Harry Truman (HST) came up. I wondered why he was being referenced and came to no conclusion. What gives with the shoutout to HST?

Signed: “Old enough to remember but not remember why.”

Dear Old enough:

As it turns out, you might see many of our former presidents’ initials embedded in quilting instructions. HST stands for Half Square Triangles. Other presidents include: LBJ- Large Binding Job DDE- Do Double Edge FDR- Find Dritz Ruler JFK- Just For Kicks RNN-Replace Needle Now

Sally

QUILTS AND QUILTERS WANTED

The Sheldon Historical Society is planning a quilt display as one of its events, the Sheldon Old Home Day on July 25, 2026, to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The society is looking for Quilts of Valor (QOV) to hang in the display this summer.

If you have a quilt the Sheldon Historical Society might be able use in its QOV display, please contact Fern Mercure, 802-309-8466 or fmercure@myfairpoint.net.

July 1st

is



Franklin County Quilters Guild

Co-Presidents: Jean Anne Branch and Cindy Metayer

Location: American Legion, St. Albans, VT

Minutes from the General Meeting

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Cindy Metayer.

Cindy talked about happy moments that we share. We are fortunate to have these. Some of these are the numerous quilts that FCQG's members are so generous preparing for the community. In fact, they are so generous that we may be able to support even more organizations. Please let the guild know if you have another cause in mind. Some ideas that were provided are "Wrap the World with Quilts" and "Sleep in Heavenly Peace."

CONSENT AGENDA: A motion was made by Sharon Perry and seconded by Peggy Paradee to accept the May, 13, 2026 Secretary Report and June Treasurer Report. All in favor, motion carried.

VERMONT QUILT SHOW (JUNE 2026):

- Sharon announced that there were 15 spaces open for volunteers. Please sign up if you are able.
- A sign-up sheet was circulated to the meeting attendees.

Sharon also announced that Hope Johnson of Honeycomb Bee Quilts would be at Sheldon Historical Society on Saturday at 1:00 pm for a talk. Hopefully someone was able to go see her.

QUILT SHOW (Diane Kane):

- Diane Kane was still looking for a co-chair for the 2027 quilt show. Diane Biondi has graciously volunteered. Good luck to you both!
- The quilt show for 2027 will be on April 3rd & 4th.
- Diane mentioned that there was some interest in a wearable art category. Discussion followed on who might be interested in participating and how we might display these items.

COMFORT QUILTS (Denise Chase):

- Denise says that we're doing great with comfort quilts. She says that she will be reaching out to see if anyone has some need.
- She can also provide backing and batting for your quilt tops.

MEMBERSHIP (Penny LaRochelle): Penny announced 71 paid members. There were 41 members present and 2 guests present, Juanita Manley and Sue Lynch.

BLOCK OF THE MONTH (Sandy Lane):

- Sandy presented a sample of the new Block of the Month which is a film strip block. The block should be made with summer themed fabrics.

- Instructions will be posted on the FCQG under "Projects." Sandy demonstrated how the block will be assembled. Members are encouraged to bring completed blocks to the July meeting.
- The winner of the blocks was Dorothy Pratt.
- In addition, Sandy talked about a potential Block Swap and was putting out feelers for interest. She also described what these entail for those who are not familiar with them.

PROGRAMS (Helen Short, Cathy Carlson):

- Tonight is our summer potluck and truck show. Take a look at all the great deals that have been brought in. But first we will enjoy all the amazing dishes that have been brought in.
- In July we will be playing Temperature Rising Strip Poker with red, white and blue strips.
- August will be Scrap Quilting with Lisa Torres
- In September we'll also be showing what we made for our batik project from the Snip, Rip, Drop and Pass game we played.
- In October Nina Clotfelter will present 'Thread, What's the Big Deal?' She will be offering a workshop, "How to Quilt on Your Domestic Sewing Machine" on Saturday, October 10th.
- The November meeting will be on Veterans Day so the meeting will focus on Quilts of Valor and it is the Panel Palooza Reveal so don't forget your panel brown bag project.
- December will be the annual Holiday Potluck and gift exchange.

OTHER BUSINESS: Sharon Perry took a moment to talk about quilt retreats. There are no FCQG-sponsored quilt retreats. Rather some members have gone to retreats run by other organizations, and some other members have organized their own, often including guild and non-guild participants. She talked about various ways that others could put together retreats. Sharon also received an email from Robert Snyder at North Hero House. He wanted us to know that they can do retreats accommodating up to 35 people.

DRAWINGS: Since we did not have the boxes for the drawings last month, we will do two membership drawings this month.

- Membership – Last month winner – Mary Ellen and this month's winner is Laurel Schaap
- Comfort quilts – Linda Wells
- Next month the drawing for May's comfort quilts will be done.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Nanc Ekiert and was 2nd Laurel Schaap. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Trahan, Sitting Secretary

BLOCK OF THE MONTH (BOM)

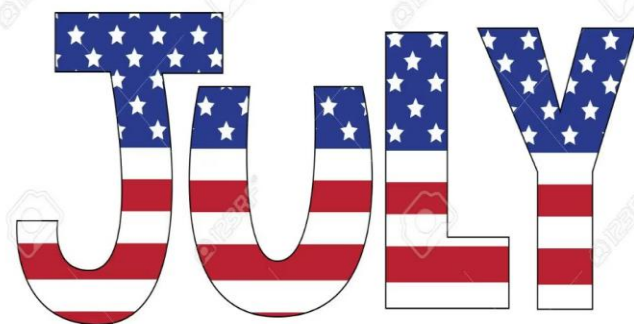
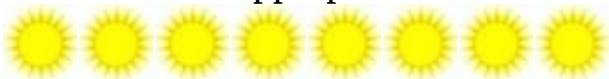
Sandy Lane is this year's Project Coordinator for the guild. The BOM presented at our June guild meeting is called Filmstrip. Use summer-themed fabrics...think picnics, sunny days, flowers and even bugs!

Block instructions can be found [here](#).



SUNSHINE CARDS FOR GUILD MEMBERS

If you know of a guild member who is in need of encouragement or comfort due to an illness, bereavement, etc., please contact John Rouleau, 802-233-3368. He will send out an appropriate card.



Lucie	Fortin	July	2
Tomi	Seguin	July	9
Mary	King	July	15
Denise	Chase	July	28
Joan	Wood	July	28
Krissy	Kilburn	July	31

...and many more!!!



LOOKING FOR SKIRT HANGERS

Mary King is already planning ahead for next year's guild boutique at the quilt show. This year was her first year taking charge of setting up the boutique and she has lots of ideas on making it easier to display the members' items.

One of her ideas is to hang all the table runners and toppers on skirt hangers so potential buyers are able to see the full size and both sides of each item. Rather than buying new hangers, Mary is looking for members to donate any skirt hangers you might no longer need. She'll collect the hangers at the next few guild meetings. So go through your closets and see if you have any skirt hangers you might like to give away to support the cause.

QUILT TIPS

- You're the only one who will notice if it's not perfect.
- Find the thread your machine loves and stick with it!
- Change your needle often to avoid problems.
- Relax, have fun, and enjoy the process of an age old craft that produces not only something unique to cherish but also something practical and long lasting. There will never be another quilt like the ones you make.
- Never quilt with a headache...it only leads to more headaches.
- Use Magic Sizing in place of starch. Critters and bugs are not attracted to it.
- Enjoy the process. Keep a record of quilts you have made with notes, dates and pictures
- Each week cut all your leftover project fabric to 5" or 10" squares or 2½-inch strips. You'll be surprised how many squares and strips you can accumulate in a few months...you'll have enough to make a scrappy quilt.
- Don't worry about what other people think. Do your own thing...whatever feeds your soul.
- Find a brand of ruler you like and stick to that brand. No, they do not all measure the same.
- Chocolate is a quilting notion!





RECIPE CORNER

FRESH STRAWBERRY PIE

From Jean Anne Branch

2 lbs. fresh strawberries, hulled and cleaned
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup water
 2 tablespoons cornstarch
 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 1 9-inch graham crust
 Thinly slice $\frac{3}{4}$ of berries. Place in large bowl.
 Puree remaining berries on food processor. Place in medium saucepan over medium heat. Add sugar, cornstarch and lemon juice. Bring to a boil, stirring often, about 5 minutes. Boil 5 more minutes, stirring constantly until thick as jam.
 Pour mixture over berries in bowl. Stir gently to combine. Pour into pie crust.
 Refrigerate at least 3 hours or until set. Serve with a dollop of whipped cream.

LEMON BLUEBERRY CAKE

From Jean Anne Branch

(Makes a great breakfast, snack or dessert)

Whisk together and set aside:

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups all-purpose flour
 1 teaspoon baking powder
 1 teaspoon salt

Mix together in electric mixer bowl:

$\frac{1}{3}$ cup melted butter
 1 cup sugar
 2 eggs
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla extract
 2 teaspoons lemon zest
 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk

Toss together:

1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries
 1 tablespoon flour

Lemon Glaze:

2 tablespoons melted butter
 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup powdered sugar
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla extract

Line a standard loaf pan with parchment paper. Preheat oven to 350°.

Add flour mixture and milk alternately to liquid mixture. Beat until just combined. Gently stir in the coated blueberries. Immediately pour batter into prepared pan.

Bake in preheated oven for 55-65 minutes (toothpick clean). Let cool in pan for 30 minutes. Turn out onto wire rack with cookie sheet under it.

Mix glaze and pour over cake. Let set before cutting.

HONEY POPPY SEED FRUIT SALAD

2 medium firm bananas, chopped
 2 cups fresh blueberries
 2 cups fresh raspberries
 2 cups sliced fresh strawberries
 5 tablespoons honey
 1 teaspoon lemon juice
 $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon poppy seeds

In a large bowl, combine the bananas and berries. In a small bowl, combine the honey, lemon juice and poppy seeds. Pour over fruit and toss to coat.

BERRY TIRAMISU

3 cups fresh raspberries
 3 cups fresh blackberries
 2 cups fresh blueberries
 2 cups fresh strawberries, sliced
 1- $\frac{1}{3}$ cups sugar, divided
 4 teaspoons grated orange zest
 1 cup orange juice
 1 cup heavy whipping cream
 2 cartons (8 ounces each) mascarpone cheese
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 2 packages (7 ounces each) crisp ladyfinger cookies
 Additional fresh berries, optional

Place berries in a large bowl. Mix $\frac{1}{3}$ cup sugar, orange zest and orange juice; toss gently with berries. Refrigerate, covered, 45 minutes.

Beat cream until soft peaks form. In another bowl, mix mascarpone cheese, vanilla and remaining 1 cup sugar. Fold in whipped cream, a third at a time.

Drain berries over a shallow bowl, reserving juices. Dip ladyfingers in reserved juices, allowing excess to drip off; arrange ladyfingers in a single layer on bottom of a 13x9-in. dish. Layer with half the berries and half the mascarpone mixture; repeat layers, starting with ladyfingers.

Refrigerate, covered, overnight. If desired, top with additional berries before serving.



JULY**By Annette Wynne**

July's for Independence Day,
For flags and speeches and for play,
For hiding deep in meadow grass
And watching flying creatures pass,
For sailing boats on little seas,
Where just the smallest summer breeze
Can blow; for picking flowers any day;
July comes for flags and play.

**FEATURED VIDEO TUTORIAL
FOR JULY:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WfpY9sn6ggs>

Sew Cute Runner for July
Shabby Fabrics

**LINK TO BARN QUILT TRAIL OF NORTHERN VERMONT**

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

NEWSLETTER IDEAS WANTED: Do you have a recipe you'd like to share with guild members? Or maybe you've found a great quilting website or blog you'd like to share. Or you've visited a quilt shop within an easy drive which had bargains or a fabric selection no quilter should miss. If so, send an email to vtquilter@gmail.com, and the newsletter editor will do her best to include it in the next newsletter. Although welcome, your input doesn't have to be a complete article. It could be a few bullets which convey your message. The editor will fill out the article as needed.

Deadline for articles for next newsletter:

3rd Wednesday, July 15th, 2026

Please email articles to Sharon Perry, to vtquilter@gmail.com,
or mail to PO Box 517, Montgomery Center VT 05471



July is National Blueberry Month



*"Independence Day, July 4th, or as I know it: Out
with the British day!" ~ Steven Magee*