

# NORTH PITTSBURGH QUILTERS GUILD

## From the President's Desk

Hello Everyone,

Hope you are all cozy and warm and sewing away. To me, winter is THE season for quilting. Aside from the whole making-something-warm thing, so much outside of our homes shuts down with the colder weather and when you do go out, it takes so much more gumption to make yourself do it. It's so easy to just slide up to your sewing machine or do handwork in your comfy chair. And if you got our list of book recommendations from last month's meeting, add an audio book and your favorite beverage. Perfect!

We are only a few months from our show. It's starting to feel real! Check for some show updates later in the newsletter.

We have our meeting and program on February 6<sup>th</sup> program with the amazing Paula Nadelstern. Watch for the Zoom invitation.

And then, how about if we do a Zoom **Quilt n' Wilt** on **Saturday February 10<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 3** or whenever you want to drift in and out. Move your device next to the sewing machine and work and chat the day away! Invitation will follow.

See you on Tuesday.

Stacy

## Upcoming Programs

Our February 6th meeting will be conducted over Zoom. If you do not have the ability to participate via Zoom on your personal computer, let me know and I will try to figure out alternate arrangements.

Our meeting will be with FABRICADABRA, Simple Quilts, Complex Fabrics with Paula Nadelstern, an amazing quilter and designer of kaleidoscope quilts. “Quilts of simple shapes can be transformed into dramatic visual spectacles using intricate, charismatic fabrics”, says Paula explaining her design strategies including the roles of symmetry, templates, repetition and camouflaged seams. The lecture will showcase her quilts with illustrations revealing simple lay-outs and a discussion about designing fabric.

Her website is [paulanadelstern.com](http://paulanadelstern.com) if you want to look at her beautiful work prior to the lecture.

I feel like the Lone Robin/Mystery Quilt has been a struggle. I asked Anne to send out an explanation with visual samples of each prompt (January 5 11:18 a.m.) It is an attachment following the recap of the January lecture with Mel Beach. We can have a discussion after the February meeting if necessary. Here are the prompts to date:

First prompt either CURVED PIECING OR FLYING GEESE

Second prompt - STRIP PIECING

Third prompt - GRADATION- Example: gradation of color, gradation of size

Fourth prompt - TBA in February

Sandra Schott  
Programs

# 2024 NPQG Retreat

Crestfield Camp and Conference Center May 16-19, 2024

**Our NPQG Retreat will again be held at Crestfield in Slippery Rock May 16 - 19.**

There is a large sewing room with a refrigerator and microwave. Water and coffee are provided during the day. Crestfield has many walking paths and a lovely setting. Our rooms are just a few steps away from the work room and the dining room. Each room has its own bathroom. Sheets and towels are provided. Meals are included: Thursday dinner, Friday & Saturday brunch and dinner, and brunch on Sunday. And, of course, we will have a snack/dessert area in our sewing room. If you have a quilting friend or relative who would like to join us, please invite them.

The lodge has singles, doubles and triples. Obviously, the more we double or triple up, the more people we can accommodate. The lodge has a few rooms with a partial handicap bathroom and a couple with a full handicap bathroom. If you want to request either of these, please note it on your registration. Also if you have any dietary restrictions, please include that on your form.

Nearly 1/3 of the slots are already filled. So check your calendar, find a roommate or two and get your registration in. Space is limited. First come, first served.

It's unfortunate that we don't have an in-person meeting in February. If you want to come, and don't have a roommate, let me know and perhaps we can get you together with someone in the same situation.

The registration form is attached. Please call or email if you have any questions.

Tracey Zigo

412-916-1280

zigo13@comcast.net

# Quilt Show 2024

## Quilt Show Updates from Stacy (wearing her Quilt Show Chair hat)

Only 11 weeks to the show! Here's a list of things to know and ways to contribute.

- **Register** your quilts with Sandra Schott. She is standing by eagerly awaiting your entries. Your quilts ARE the show. We can't wait to see them all hung up and looking gorgeous!
- **We need a third quilt drop off location** in the Cranberry / Wexford area or thereabouts. People will bring their quilts to your home based on your available hours during the week of April 7 – 14. You bring them to the Ross Municipal Center early on the morning of Wednesday April 17<sup>th</sup>. That's it. You have no responsibilities for pick up and redistribution.
- **Volunteer to work a shift or two** during the show. **Donna Martin** is the lady to see about available slots. It's fun, you get to hang out with nice people and we couldn't do it without you!
- Judging is Wednesday April 17<sup>th</sup>. If you're interested in volunteering or just want to see how a judging works, **get in touch with Carol Beck**.
- You still have time to make **donations of new or extremely gently used items** to the Dream Baskets. Contact **Tricia McSorley**. Soon. It takes a while to put these lovely things together! The Dream Baskets make us a nice amount of money. Help them out by donating things YOU would like to receive!
- If you're contemplating mid-winter cleaning and have usable quilting and sewing related items to donate, call **Denise**

**Friedrich** to for **Treasure Chest**. The money we make from Treasure Chest allows us to cover a more varied and interesting program for the guild and its members.

- **Sew! Sew! Sew!** Get your quilts done. (Says she who hasn't really started anything...) This is your show! Put your work out there! Loud and Proud ladies!
- Followed by **Hang! Hang! Hang!** On Thursday April 18<sup>th</sup>, starting mid-morning and going till we're finished, it's quilt hanging time. All hands on deck! If you can't do it yourself, rustle up a family member with a ladder!
- At the March meeting we will have posters available. **Grab a poster or two** and put it out in your local shops, libraries, churches...wherever people pass through.
- If you've entered a quilt or 2, plan on coming to the **Preview Party**. Bring a friend. It's our chance to honor our winners and stroll the show.
- Get out the cookie sheets and **bake, bake, bake!** (But not right now...wait till April.) The cookies come in for the Preview Party, but they stoke the whole rest of the show. Our vendors comment on how well we keep them fed, which keeps them happy, which keeps them coming back. And a little snack for all our volunteers is very much appreciated.
- **Come to the show!** Quilt shows are little miracles. We start with a big bare room then fill it with an amazing display or gorgeous handmade things, vendors to shop, treasures to dig for...and cookies! And in three days, we take it all back down to the bare room again. And this is all done by mostly 'mature' women who, of-a-certain-age or not, ALL have lots and lots of other things to do. Come and bask in it! We love our monthly show and tell, but to see all those quilts hung, all well-lit and to stroll down the aisles and see one after another after another....Makes all the effort and planning SO worth it.

## **Quilt Raffle Tickets**

Again, since we have no in person meeting this month, if anyone wants to turn in quilt raffle ticket money, please send it and the tickets stubs to me. Also, if you'd like more tickets, email me and I can mail more to you. Otherwise, be sure to bring your tickets to the March in-person meeting.

If you call, please leave a message and I'll get back to you asap.

Mollie Healy  
[mollie111103@yahoo.com](mailto:mollie111103@yahoo.com)

## **Quilt Registrations**

I am receiving the registrations for the quilt show and to date we have 6 quilts !!!!! I know many of you have them done and ready to go (me included!), so why not snap a photo and send them in. Remember to number the quilts 1st, 2nd or 3rd in case we have too many, so we have your preference for which ones to enter. Also, the Crazy Quilt DOES count as one of your three quilts. Spread the word to all your quilty friends.

Sandy Schott

## TREASURE CHEST 2024



Hello everyone! Are you still "destashing" your sewing and quilting items? Members of the committee will be sorting and pricing items at the March 9<sup>th</sup> Quilt 'n Wilt for your convenient drop off! OR contact Lisa or me to make arrangements for pick-up of your donation.

We have collected quite a few panels and quilt tops. I have one quilt display rack for hanging but would love to have a second one "just in case". Please let Lisa or me know if you have one we can borrow.

Take care and hope to see you at the Quilt 'n Wilt in March.

Lisa and Denise

### **Volunteers Needed**

I still have lots of spaces left on my volunteer chart and since we don't have the opportunity to sign up personally, you can sign up easily with a simple text or email to me. We especially need help on Friday April 19<sup>th</sup> and Sat 20<sup>th</sup> for the 2:20 to 5:00 shift, All positions except kitchen.

I hope to hear from you. Thank you so much if you already volunteered!

Donna Martin

412 600 9539

[donna\\_martin99@yahoo.com](mailto:donna_martin99@yahoo.com)

# And Now for Something Completely Different

## Do You YouTube?

By Abigail Thompson

In the Before Time (pre-pandemic) YouTube was not on my radar at all. But then I found that you can learn to do ANYTHING on YouTube. Do you need to clean your dishwasher? There's a video on YouTube. Do you need to learn how to play "Have you Ever Seen the Rain" on ukulele? There's a video on YouTube. And of course there are tons of quilting videos out there!

We're in a guild because we want to make friends with other quilters, share quilting with the public (get ready for the Quilt Show!), show off our quilts to people who 'get it', learn new skills, and so much more! But sometimes after you have learned how to make 4-at-a-time HSTs at a Saturday morning workshop, you forget how to do it next weekend! So what do you do? You look it up on YouTube.

I thought I would introduce three of my favorite quilting YouTubers in this newsletter. While I can add more in another newsletter, I hope that you will send your thoughts about your own favorites to me at [abigail.thompson35@gmail.com](mailto:abigail.thompson35@gmail.com). We would all like to meet them too.

Karen Brown of "Just Get it Done Quilts" is fabulous. Karen was a professional organizer (think warehouses, not closets), so she has a 'sciencerrific' approach to quilting. She has fascinating videos about color, prewashing, cost-analysis of precuts, directional fabric, EPP, binding (every time I bind a quilt, I look at her video for that final seam!), what to do when you've run out of a particular fabric, scrap management, how to choose between finishing and letting go of UFOs/WIPs, how to sit right, how to set up your quilting triangle, and so much more! Karen just finished the 21 day,



2024 Declutter Challenge to help you clean up your quilting space. Through the power of YouTube, you are never too late and can begin right now (and donate to the Treasure Chest)!

“Missouri Star Quilt Company”. Jenny Doan has been making quilting videos for a long time. But now she and her company are YouTube stars. She puts out a new video every Friday but the third Friday of the month is Triple Play Day in which Jenny, her daughter Natalie, and her daughter-in-law Misty each show a quilt that they made using a particular tool or block, etc. You can also tune in for “At Home with Misty” every Monday. They teach you all sorts of short-cuts, tips, and tricks, and they show cutting and stitching. If you haven’t been watching, there is a big backlog of videos, so get cracking! Just remember that they do hope you will buy from them... but support our local stores too (or first).

Cathy Martin of “TheCatBirdQuilts” is a touch of Southern charm. A pharmacist by day, she quilts mostly with . . . (X-large) thrifted men’s dress shirts! Surprisingly (or not?) this poses unique challenges for quilting. But there are some pretty amazing shirts out there – the legendary purple shirt! Cathy does fabric pulls, takes you thrifting, and shows you her quilts in progress. She does not show actual cutting/sewing. Just for kicks, I am using thrifted men’s dress shirts for my Lone Robin Mystery Quilt.

Lastly, a warning for on-line safety: don’t share your name, address, etc. with anyone pretending to be these YouTube quilters. Many of them have a “Patreon” site, click the “Join” button if you want to join one (I haven’t felt the need to do that), where you pay \$1, \$5, or \$10 a month to be a member, so they will have give-aways and contests there. They won’t do that on YouTube which is unsecure. (I’ve never been scammed this way, but I’ve seen warnings).

But you don’t have to go on Patreon to help out these YouTube quilters. If you click the “Like” (Thumbs up) button when you watch a good video, that supports them. You can also subscribe by clicking the Bell button to be

notified when they post another video. Doing these things also brings more quilting videos to your YouTube feed. Enjoy!

# NPQG Retreat    May 16 - 19, 2024

**Crestfield Camp and Conference Center**    <http://www.crestfieldcc.org/>  
195 Taggart Road  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Each room has its own bathroom. Sheets and towels are provided.

## Three night stay (Thursday, Friday, Saturday)

includes 6 meals:  
Dinner---Thur, Fri, Sat  
Brunch---Fri, Sat, Sun

single        \$304  
double       \$204  
triple        \$179

**Refund policy:** We need to give the center our final count a month prior; therefore, no refunds after April 16

## Two night stay (Friday, Saturday)

includes 4 meals:  
Dinner---Fri, Sat  
Brunch---Sat, Sun

single        \$236  
double       \$146  
triple        \$120

Large work room - everyone will have a 6 foot table.  
Refrigerator, coffee, hot tea, ice water - provided by Crestfield

Complete the form below, detach and send with your check **made out to NPQG**.  
Mail to: Tracey Zigo    2507 W Hardies Road    Gibsonia PA 15044

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_    Email \_\_\_\_\_

Circle your choice:    3 nights    2 nights

Type of room:    Single    Double    Triple

List roommate(s)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Dietary requests** such as vegetarian, vegan, no dairy, no gluten...

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_