

Nimble Fingers Newsletter

Fiber Artists of the Nation's Capital

www.nimblefingers.org
March/April 2017

PO Box 8101
Gaithersburg MD 20898-8101

Officers 2016-2017:
President: Margaret Natof
Vice President: Liz Adams
Secretary: OPEN
Treasurer: Susan Sellers

Since 1974 = 43 YEARS OF FELLOWSHIP

Remember to please keep our meetings a fragrance-free environment.

Next meeting is Wednesday March 1

President's Message from Margaret Natof

Thank you to the members who helped me organize the Quilting for Others materials. Starting March 1, Q4O will once again have kits available at meetings.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, quilt sizes are outlined. Q4O currently focuses on "comfort quilts" in sizes for hospitalized children. Your quilt does not have to meet a specific size requirement - just somewhere close. If you want to make larger or smaller quilts for donation, Q4O is happy to receive them. We will find homes for them in shelters, hospitals, or with Habitat.

Q4O is happy to accept donations of fabric, tops, batting, and other materials for use in making quilts to donate. In order to streamline our process, we cannot accept scraps, sheets, non-cotton fabric, etc. Children's prints, bright colors, panels, and the like, are appreciated. Dark fabric may be appropriate for backings, but please, consider if a child or teen would appreciate it.

The next Quilting for Others meeting will be at my house on February 28. Please call if you would like to help out, space if limited.

The Q4O committee will consider your ideas for quilts - sizes, patterns, places to donate. Please let me know your thoughts.

Our next board meeting is Thursday March 9 at 10 am at Susan Sellers.

Nominating Committee – Liz Adams, Bunny Tjaden, Nancy Sharp

Your nominating committee has been hard at work creating a slate for the 2017-2018 year. They have candidates for president and vice president but are still looking for secretary and treasurer. If you are interested in serving in either of these two offices please contact Liz Adams. The slate will be announced at the March meeting with elections held at the April meeting.

Quilting 4 Others – Margaret Natof

Quilting for Others (Q4O) makes mostly "comfort quilts" for donation in Montgomery County.

Comfort Quilt Sizes are provided as a guideline, not as a set-in-stone requirement. Q4O will accept quilts of any size because the need is great in all areas. We will find a home for any size quilt.

Comfort Quilts

Baby	36" x 36"
Child	40" x 60"
Lap	45" x 45"

Other Quilt Sizes (FYI)

Bed	Mattress Size	"Standard" Quilt Size
Crib	28" x 52"	36" x 60"
Youth	33" x 66"	54" x 78"
Twin	39" x 76"	70" x 90"
XLong Twin	39" x 80"	70" x 95"
Double	54" x 75"	84" x 90"
Queen	60" x 80"	90" x 95"
King	78" x 80"	108" x 95"
Cal. King	72" x 84"	102" x 100"

When making a bed quilt, measure the mattress and add for the "fall" at the bottom and both sides. Also, if a pillow tuck is needed, add about 10".

In addition, special sizes are listed below:

Preemie	18" square to 24" square
Wheelchair Lap Quilt	36" square to 38" x 47"

This information was gathered from a number of sources including the American Quilters Society, Warm Up America, and Project Linus. Please send any comments and/or corrections to Margaret Natof.

Programs – Chaired by the 3T's Mini-Group until June 2017

March 1: Cindy Grisdela presents *Playing with Color*. There will be a full day workshop on Thursday March 2 called *Playing with Crayons*. See <https://cindygrisdela.com/lecturesworkshops/> for more information. The cost is

\$65. Sign up now.

April 5: Linda Syverson Guild will present a lecture and trunk show called *Architectural Influence*. See <http://www.lindasyversonguild.com>.

May 3: Carly Mul from Webfabrics in Purcellville VA will present *Collage:Fun with Scraps* followed by an afternoon workshop called *Scissor collage*.

June 7 and 8 feature Gyleen Fitzgerald. Lecture and full day workshop details will follow in a blast.

Calling all mini-groups! Please volunteer to chair Programs for the coming year.

Join Mary Ling if you are interested in providing input for future meetings. She is hosting focus groups during lunch following the March and April meetings.

Hospitality – Joni Hanley and Mary Campbell (co-chairs)

We will have subs and salad for lunch after our meeting on March 1 for \$4. Those who signed up to hostess will be sent a reminder before the meeting.

Mini Groups – Ruth Cohen

If you are not in a small quilt group, now is the time to join one, or start a new one. Many of the small groups already have enough members. But it is easy to start your own group. Just send Ruth your name and contact information and when you would like to meet. She will keep a list of interested quilters and see if she can create a group. It is not necessary for everyone in the group to be at the same skill level or enjoy the same kind of quilting. Diversity makes for livelier meetings. Send information or questions to: Ruth Cohen by phone or email.

Membership – Rainie Broad

Nimble Fingers membership runs each year from May 1st through April 30th. Our dues remain at \$25 per year. We will be accepting 2017-2018 dues beginning at our March meeting. You can either pay by check (payable to - Nimble Fingers) or cash. If you are going to be away and would like to mail your dues please mail check to Rainie Broad. Her address is in the directory or contact her at membership@nimblefingers.org.

Sunshine – Laura Markus

YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE.....

Laura is looking to spread some Sunshine to our guild members, so if you hear of someone that needs a little Sunshine, or if there's Great news, please let her know, and she will send a card from the guild. Please email Laura.

Library – Luanne Lindeman

Don't forget to check the website often (www.nimblefingers.org/library) and peruse our list of available titles. If you find one or more you would like me to bring to the next meeting, just email the request to librarian@nimblefingers.org

Thoughts from Nancy Sharp – Finding my North Star

Every year as the calendar turns, my thoughts turn to "where am I going this year?" Maybe your thoughts do, also.

This year, in 2017, as I celebrate my 10th year of quilting, I want to focus more on an "arty" style of quilting. Being part of the "Art Quilt Study Group" has certainly given me the opportunity to explore multiple pathways. And joining the "Improv Club" at Capital Quilts has given me further cues.

I want to sit quietly and ask myself, "Where am I going with this project?" I want to find my North Star, and be strong and assertive on the project's direction. I want to make a connection with the younger, fresher part of me. I'm grown up now, and can make more artistic decisions than I could previously. No need for permission from anyone else. No need to follow stern directions or instructions -- it's just me that I have to listen to.

Following your own North Star will give you the freedom and autonomy for your future quilting projects. Happily !! Go forth and make quilts in your audacious and energetic style. Tune in for a very productive 2017.

Current Events – Cathy Berman et al

Fiber art show in March at Audubon Naturalist Society. The theme is "Birds: Imagined, Natural, Symbolic". Exhibit location at the Audubon's Woodend Nature Sanctuary is 8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase, MD 20815 301-652-9188

Ocean Waves Quilt Show: Peach Blossom - Quilts in the Orchard", July 21 - 22, 2017 at: Cape Henlopen High School, Lewes, DE. See <https://www.oceanwavesquiltguild.org/quilt-show> for details.

Baltimore Heritage Quilters Guild biennial Quilt Expo: March 18-19 at The Park School Athletic Center, 2425 Old Court Rd, Baltimore 21208. For more information, see <http://www.baltimorequilters.com/expo-2017/>.

The Lancaster Quilt Show at the Continental Inn 2017: Runs parallel with the AQS Show in Lancaster PA, March 29 – April 1. See www.lancasterquiltweek.com for more information.

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR
May/June 2017 NEWSLETTER:
April 19, 2017**

Please send corrections to newsletter@nimblefingers.org

Committee Chairs – contact these people to volunteer or get information:

Current Events:	Cathy Berman
Historian:	Susan Sellers
Hospitality:	Joni Hanley, Mary Campbell
Library:	Luanne Lindeman
Membership:	Rainie Broad
Mini Groups:	Ruth Cohen
Newsletter:	Linda August
Nominating:	Liz Adams, Bunny Tjaden, Nancy Sharp
Programs:	3T's Mini-group thru June 2017
Quilting Bee:	Francie Parrack
Quilting for Others:	Margaret Natof
Retreat:	Kim Jalette, Laura Markus
Sunshine:	Laura Markus
Website, Facebook:	Linda Dixon
Welcoming:	Ivy Barnett

Nimble Fingers Quilters, Inc. meets at 10 AM on the first Wednesday of the month
(except July and August) at the
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville (UUCR)
100 Welsh Park Drive, Rockville MD 20850

Luncheon follows each meeting.