

Nimble Fingers Newsletter

www.nimblefingers.org
May/June 2016

PO Box 8101
Gaithersburg MD 20898-8101

Officers 2015-2016:
President: Margaret Natof
Vice President: Liz Adams
Secretary: Luanne Lindeman
Treasurer: Susan Sellers

Since 1974 = 42 YEARS OF FELLOWSHIP

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

President's Message from Margaret Natof

A huge Thank You! to the 3T's small quilt group for volunteering to serve as the Program Committee starting in September. The group is already at work on upcoming programs. If you have suggestions or recommendations for future speakers or topics, please contact either Mary Ling or Ronnie Sullivan, the coordinators for the committee.

Another Thank You! to the Sew Nice mini group for their service as the Program Committee for the past several years. Job well done!!!

In the fall, guild members will have to "hit the ground running" to prepare for our October 21-22 Quilt Show. Please watch the weekly Blast emails for opportunities for you to donate time and materials to the preparations for the Show. For example, Nancy Sharp is looking for nice fat quarters for the raffle baskets and I am looking for scraps for the Artisans Attic "scrapmania." A scrap is at least 2" x 2" or a strip at least 2 inches wide. Bring your donations to the meetings or call the committee chairs to make other arrangements.

Reminder: Sole of a Sandal Challenge due at the May meeting.

Committee Chair positions are open now for Welcoming and Historian. The Quilting 4 Others position will be open on November. Contact me if you and/or your mini-group are interested in any of these.

Programs – Chaired by the Sew Nice Quilt Group through June 2016

May 4-5 – Jean Ann Wright – Quilt Designer and author. For 21 years, Jean Ann was editor-in-chief of QUILT MAGAZINE. Since retiring from full time editing she has worked as a consultant in the quilting industry and recently designed a fabric collection for Newcastle Fabrics. Jean Ann is the author of 5 books, including Jelly Roll Jambalaya and Curvy Log Cabin Quilts featuring her recent rulers, the 6” and 8” Curvy Log Cabin Trim Tools. Website: www.jeanannquilts.com

Jean Ann will lead a Jelly Roll Jambalaya quilt workshop on May 5 at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. See website www.uucr.org for driving and parking directions. Bring your brightest jelly roll for a stunning and upbeat quilt via a large hexagon pattern. OR – If you prefer, sew your jelly roll into one long continuous strip in an Andouille-style (New Orleans hot sausage) with some electrifying colors. Rulers, books, and patterns will be available on May 4. Also, see Jean Ann’s website above.

Cost of the 6-hour workshop is \$50.00 for NF members and \$55.00 for non-NF members. To REGISTER – call or email Nancy Sharp. We will send an invitation to join Jean Ann’s workshop to Needlechasers Guild, Friendship Star Guild, Bethesda Quilters, and others. Join us for a fun day, learning and quilting with friends !!

June 1 – Anne Sullivan – Color, Color, Color: How Do you Choose? Anne will help us focus on how to make the best choices for colors for our quilts. As an artist, designer, and engineer, Anne is most excited about projects that combine her three passions. She is currently on faculty at American University in Washington, DC, an author at F+W Media, Inc., and Creative Director and Co-Founder of Play-Crafts, Inc. Website: www.play-crafts.com

3T’s Mini-group to lead Programs starting in June

At the April 6 Nimble Fingers Quilt Guild meeting it was announced that the “Three T’s” mini-group will assume leadership of the NF program committee when the Sew Nice mini-group’s term is up at the June 1, 2016 guild meeting. Thank you, Three T’s!! We look forward to continued excellent programming during the 2016-2017 year.

Just for Fun.....

Also, for those of us who are retired – remember when we had to go to work dressed “to the nines” with fine jewelry and clothing in our working days. Now we now have drawers and closets filled with our finest outfits. We encourage you wear your finest again to Nimble Fingers meeting to show off your “stuff.” The Sew Nice mini-group has been showing off their fine jewels and clothing at mini-group meetings all year.

Hospitality – Joni Hanley and Vivi Sheff (co-chairs)

We will have subs and salad for lunch after our meeting on May 4 with the usual \$4 charge that covers your sandwich, salad, drink, and dessert. What a deal! Those who signed up to hostess will be sent a reminder before the meeting.

Our June meeting will be followed by a potluck. Please bring your special potluck dish. While this lack of assignments poses a danger of an all dessert meal (Danger? Whom are we kidding?), I suspect there are vegetable, appetizer, and entree mavens among us.

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

Membership renewal is now. Dues are \$25 for the year. Checks made payable to Nimble Fingers Quilters Inc or cash will be accepted at the meeting. You can also mail a check with your membership dues to Rainie at her home address listed in the directory. For more information, send an email to membership@nimblefingers.org.

Quilting 4 Others – Ginger Peebles and Barbara Shaffer (co-chairs)

We will need a new Quilting 4 Others chair starting after the Quilt Show in October. If you or your mini-group is interested in taking over this position then please contact Margaret Natof.

From Ginger: First, many thanks to all who have supported Quilting 4 Others this past year. Your work has made the donations of our quilts possible. We delivered 9 quilts to the Pediatric Unit of Shady Grove Hospital in April. They were received with enthusiasm and true appreciation.

Please try to finish any Q4O quilt project by the June 1st meeting. If you have quilted a top but no time to bind it, just turn it in to Ginger. If you find you will not be able to quilt a pieced top, just turn it in and we will find someone else to quilt it. We also need volunteers to bind. Binding will be provided and all machine binding works well.

We do not meet in July and August, but the need for quilts continues during the summer.

Quilts Of Valor: New information recently received from MSP Quilting Angels:

QOV sizes 55" X65" to 65"X80"

All quilts need to be red, white and blue or obvious military quilt material. It is impossible to place quilts that are not RWB or patriotic. This is especially true if we are presenting to a group. We need to present quilts that have the same size, quality and coloring so that all feel the same and don't wonder why they didn't get a quilt like someone else. Other quilts can still be made and distributed to teens or even some adults with cancer if you are using non-patriotic material. You can use complimentary colors (green, gold... but the main fabric should be patriotic).

MSP Quilting Angels

PO Box 335

Boyd's, MD 20841

Contact: Kathleen Thorne wecare@mspquiltingangels.org

Before starting a QOV top it is strongly recommended that you check out the Quilts Of Valor Foundation web site: qovf.org, Quilters Questions, Basic Requirements, and in more detail the Appendix E1 QOV Quilt Making Appendices.

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.

Welcoming – OPEN

Anyone interested in greeting new members, introducing them to the various Nimble Fingers activities, and making them feel welcome to our guild, please contact our president Margaret Natof or any other officer.

Library – Luanne Lindeman

We received quite a few nice donations to the library at the last meeting. Thank you to all who donated!

Among some of the books received were the following:

- 2000 Pattern Combinations - A Step by Step Guide to Creating Pattern
- Blended Wall Quilts
- Connecting Quilts, Art & Textiles
- Fabric Dyer's Dictionary
- Japanese Quilting Sashiko
- Oxymorons - Absurdly Logical Quilts!
- Quilting Design Sourcebook
- Serendipity Quilts
- The Art of Fabric Collage - An Easy Introduction to Creative Sewing
- The Quilter's Ultimate Visual Guide
- Tile Quilt Revival - Reinventing a Forgotten Form

I will bring these books to the May meeting so you can check them out. And, don't forget to check the website often and peruse our list of available books.

And in other news

She did it again! Congratulations to Bobbie Korengold for winning the AQS Best Hand Workmanship Award in Paducah for her Ben's Midnight Garden. See <http://www.quiltweek.com/workshops/paducah-2016/>

Gently used Janome 7700 for sale by Luanne Lindeman!

I bought my Janome 7700 from Capital Quilts on July 5, 2014 for \$2,648.94. I'm asking \$2,100.00 for it. The machine works great so why am I selling it? I purchased it when my Bernina of 20+ years went kaput. I do all of my piecing on my Featherweight (which is why the Janome is gently used), but I wanted a replacement for my Bernina, which I used for any machine quilting. I decided to get the Janome for its 11 inches of workspace - it's one of very few machines available with this feature. Having the extra space to fit fabric under the machine has been great and it runs wonderfully, but alas...I just haven't bonded with it. It is an "It's not you, it's me" kind of relationship. If you think you might be interested, give me a call or email and can set up a test drive. Thanks!

Jeff Carper is the sewing machine repairman from Hancock's. He will still clean and repair machines with on-site services available. His number is 301-760-9821.

Starlight Garden Quilt Show 2016 News – Rainie Broad, Barbara Kilby, Luanne Lindeman co-chairs

STARLIGHT GARDEN RAFFLE QUILT - Kim Jalette

LOOKING AHEAD - We plan to take our quilt to the Mancuso quilt show September 15-18, 2016 in Oaks, PA (near Valley Forge, about a two-hour drive). Mark your calendar now, so you can help sell tickets for our raffle quilt, or do some white glove service. We are able to show our quilt if we provide 32 hours of white gloving; 12-16 volunteers will be needed through the 4 days of the Oaks show. All proceeds from raffle tickets provide funding for guild activities, and also benefit our selected charity in Montgomery County, Habitat for Humanity.

RAFFLE BASKETS - Nancy Sharp

We still need some interesting fabrics (18" x 22" fat-quarters are best) – to match our raffle basket themes of Children at play; Coffee, Tea, Chocolate, and Me; Beach Time; Technology for Quilters; Christmas (and/or other holidays); Stars and Strips; A Quilter's Kitchen; etc. It's time to clear your stash of duplicate fabrics and/or never used sewing items. Bring them to any Nimble Fingers meeting and give to Nancy, or contact her by phone or email for other arrangements.

SILENT AUCTION - Ruth Cohen

Do you have a little quilt that you no longer love? Have you made something small to try out or practice a new technique? If not, now is the time to try something. These are just the sort of items we sell at the Silent Auction. You set the initial price. The guild gets 25% of the final bid. A great deal for all.

QUILT SHOW CHALLENGE – Carolyn McShane

Theme: My Garden By Night
Size: 16 X 24 inches
Star requirement: A star pattern must be included somewhere in the quilt. To get ideas, Google star quilt patterns.
Sleeve: 3 inch minimum sleeve

Deadline and other requirements are as stated for all quilts submitted to the quilt show.

BOUTIQUE – Mary Ling

The Nimble Fingers Quilt Show Boutique is a great opportunity for members to sell some of the quilted items or crafts they've made. The seller receives 75% of the proceeds on items sold. The guild receives 25%. Participating guild members are only required to volunteer for one shift in the Boutique.

Suggested items for the Nimble Fingers Boutique are: any holiday themed items, especially Thanksgiving, Hanukkah and Christmas themes including potholders, coasters, mug rugs, placemats, table runners, etc. Other big sellers include notebook covers, quilted bags of all sizes and items for babies and toddlers.

Contracts will be available on the website no later than May 1, 2016. They can be filled out and returned to Mary Ling, but no later than Oct. 1, 2016.

Merchandise will be accepted for Boutique at the September and October guild meetings. Merchandise drop-offs to my home in Rockville can also be scheduled at mutually convenient times, beginning in September through October 15, 2016. No merchandise will be accepted after October 15th.

Please feel free to contact me via email with any questions.

REGISTRATION – Helen Wasserman

Registration is open for quilted items for the Starlight Garden Quilt Show from May 1 thru September 7. To submit your item information, simply go the Quilt Show section of the Nimble Fingers web site (www.nimblefingers.org), select Forms, and download the registration form. Read the requirements at the top of the form. Fill in the enterable fields by typing in the Title of Entry, Maker's Name, etc. and clicking on the appropriate check boxes. Save the form. Take a digital photo of your entry and make sure the file name includes your last name and the name of the quilted item. Attach the form and photo to an email and send it to quiltshowregistrate@nimblefingers.org. If you are unable to provide a digital photo, bring your item to the September 7 meeting where we will be taking photos. Remember: You must be a current member of Nimble Fingers to enter items in the show. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Wasserman at the registration email.

REQUEST FOR SMALL QUILTS TO BE DISPLAYED AT THE ASPEN HILL LIBRARY - Al Feldman

As part of our promotion of the quilt show, some NF members have reserved display cases at four local libraries. I have reserved the case at the Aspen Hill Library for June and am asking our members for very small wall quilts to hang there. The library is located at 4407 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville, MD 20853. Quilts should be no larger than 12"x12" which will allow us to hang a nice variety. Some of the "grid" challenge quilts might fit in this category. If we get an insufficient number of entries, slightly larger quilts, sufficient to fill the space would be acceptable. Quilts will need a hanging sleeve with a rod and thread/string or some other arrangement to hang them. They could also be hung with thumbtacks if the quilter has no objection.

Please email me right away if you want to display a quilt. We will accept the first 10 or so until we fill the space. In the subject line use the words "Aspen Hill Library". In the body of your email, list your name, the quilt name, the quilt dimensions and your contact information. Quilts accepted should be brought to the next Nimble Fingers general meeting on May 4th. Quilts may be picked up from my house after the display is over. Any leftover quilts will be brought to the guild meeting in September.

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR
September/October NEWSLETTER:
August 26, 2016**

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

Current Events:	Cathy Berman
Historian:	OPEN
Hospitality:	Joni Hanley, Vivi Sheff
Library:	Luanne Lindeman
Membership:	Rainie Broad
Mini Groups:	Ruth Cohen
Newsletter:	Linda August
Nominating:	Rainie Broad, Joan Winovich, Flo Warmack, Maryanne Culliton, and Ginger Peebles
Programs:	Sew Nice Mini-group thru June then 3T's mini-group
Quilting Bee:	Francie Parrack
Quilting for Others:	Ginger Peebles, Barbara Shaffer thru October 2016
Retreat:	Rainie Broad
Sunshine:	Laura Markus
Website:	Linda Dixon
Welcoming:	OPEN

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.