

# Courthouse Quilters President's Bulletin

March 2025

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March brings the return to in-person meetings and I am looking forward to seeing everyone again. Even though it has only been two months of online vs. in-person meetings I have missed all the little things that in-person Quilt Guild meetings can give. Back when I started quilting I didn't even know what a quilt guild was and only knew about Quilting Bees from what I saw on TV shows like Little House on the Prairie. Since I was looking for a way to learn from other experienced quilters I looked into joining a guild. Even before I joined a guild I was invited to participate with a group's three day quilting retreat. It was sensory overload! I was surrounded by nineteen quilters of diverse quilting levels, quilting styles, ages, backgrounds, and quilting advice (lots of advice). After the retreat, I was hooked and joined their guild.

After attending guild meetings I quickly discovered that modern day quilting guilds are not exactly the same as the quilting bees that I saw on TV. What they have in common is getting together for the purpose of quilting and community which is what drew me into guilds. The guilds I belong to (including ours) do those things and much more. There are meetings with guest speakers sharing their experiences and quilts, there are workshops with opportunities to learn techniques, and charity activities. In addition to these activities, guilds like ours run a quilt raffle and host a quilt show.

With such a variety of activities our guild has so much to offer. And with so much to offer it takes a lot of work. Work that takes many people to do. The success of a guild depends on it. Each time I have joined a group I promise myself that I am going to just be a member and not raise my hand to volunteer for anything. That idea only seems to last for a short while when without even realizing it my hand seems to take over and is raised to volunteer. I never (well rarely) regret taking on a bigger role in the groups I belong to and the rewards are worth the work.

Lysa Martinelli

[President@CourthouseQuilters.org](mailto:President@CourthouseQuilters.org)

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## Upcoming Meetings

**Board Meeting - ZOOM** (all members welcome)

Date/Time: Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

**Guild Workshop & Meeting**

Date/Time: Sunday, March 23, 2025 (4th Sunday of the month)

- Workshop: 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- Meeting: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. ([sign-up to bring snacks](#))

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In this bulletin there are three items about open chair positions. Please consider helping **your guild** by putting your name next to the open position.

We really need a few committee chairs ... for really important positions ... really we do ... really!!!

**Standing Committee Chairs:**

Hospitality: **YOUR NAME HERE**

**Ad-Hoc Committee Chairs:**

4H Fair: **YOUR NAME HERE**

Raffle Quilt Sales 2026: **YOUR NAME HERE**

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## **Hospitality Chair Needed**

We are looking for a Hospitality Chair. Unfortunately, if we are unable to find a chair we will no longer be able to provide drinks and snacks at meetings. The exception will be special event meetings in April and December. Thank you Cass for offering to take care of hospitality for the March meeting. [Sign-up to bring snacks to the March meeting.](#)

Donna, our most recent Hospitality chair has done a great job of streamlining the hospitality operation and is available to walk her replacement through the logistics.

Duties of the Hospitality and Special Events Committee Chair:

- Coordinates members contributing refreshments at each meeting.
- Maintains inventory of necessary supplies.
- Ensures proper set-up and cleanup of the meeting room and kitchen.
- Responsible for planning and acting as host for all Special Events the Guild holds during the year, such as; the Holiday Party, Anniversary Party, Ice Cream Social, etc. as well as any other program events that are not considered instructional.
- Coordinates with Program Chair to schedule special events, to be published in the program calendar at least three (3) months in advance.

If you are able to take on this position - Thank You. There are also other options if you would like to help with hospitality but might not be able to do it every month. Do you want to share the position with someone else or maybe you can do two or three months in a row and then hand it off to someone else for the next few months.

Please let me know if you want to talk more about helping with hospitality.



## **4-H Fair Quilt Show Chair/Co-Chair Needed**

The Hunterdon County 4-H Fair is held each year in August and includes a judged quilt show. Courthouse Quilters and Hunterdon County Quilting Guild alternate coordinating the quilt show at the fair. This year it is our turn. Participation at the 4-H fair also gives us an opportunity to sell handmade items and Caring Hearts Quilts in a Boutique.

The work for the fair has already started and we need a volunteer to serve as the 4-H Fair Quilt Show chair. The work that is needed is well documented and prior chairs are available to answer questions.

If you (or you and a friend) are able to take on this position - Thank You. Please let me know if you want to talk more about serving as our 4H Chair.

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## **Raffle Quilt Sales Chair Needed**

It is time to start the sales phase for the 2026 Raffle Quilt, Aegean Sea. Thank you to Juliet Leonard and her team for creating the beautiful quilt that will raffled in the fall of 2026. The raffle might sound like a long way off but the process to sell tickets needs to start now. The licensing process takes time and needs to be done so tickets can be printed by this fall. We can start selling tickets a year in advance to the drawing.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Raffle Quilt Sales Chair:

- Assist Treasurer/License Chairperson to apply for local raffle drawing license from the location where raffle drawing will take place. Licensing needs to be complete and tickets ready for the summer of the year preceding the Quilt Show, so that tickets are sold for 1 year before the Quilt Show.
- Purchase raffle tickets. Both the NJ State License number and the Local Drawing License number from the location where the raffle will take place are required to be printed on the ticket.
- Distribution of tickets to members and events. May delegate the distribution of tickets to a Raffle Quilt Sales Committee Member.
- Accountable for keeping track of ticket numbers, including unsold tickets, and money received.
- Stores raffle quilt, quilt hanging equipment and petty cash box.
- Finds various locations and events to sell raffle tickets.
- Organize and coordinate with CHQ member(s) the selling of tickets, supplying raffle quilt, hanging equipment and petty cash box.
- Aids in ensuring that each member sells 20 tickets.
- Promotes raffle ticket sales.
- Responsible for Quilt Show ticket sales, display Raffle Quilt and set up the quilt and Raffle Quilt table at Quilt show and manage ticket drawing at Quilt Show.
- Along with Treasurer/License Chairperson the Raffle Ticket Distribution and Sales Chairperson is required to be familiar with and adhere to current NJ State Raffle Regulations, which currently include the requirement for a separate checking account, which will be overseen by the Treasurer.

Please let me know if you want to talk more about serving as our Raffle Quilt Sales Chair.



## Programs (Barbara Fusco)

**March 23, 2025**

Note: 4th Sunday

**\*\*Workshop\*\***

*ShadFest Workshop &  
Sea Glass Quilts*

with Juliet Leonard

Location: Rt 12 County  
Complex

Time: 1:00 - 5:00

Cost: FREE

**\*\*Evening Program\*\***

*Art Quilting*

By Sherry Shine

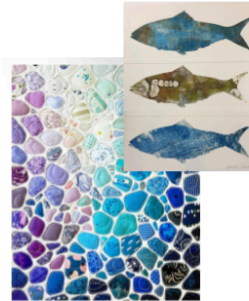
Location: Rt 12 County  
Complex

[www.courthousequilters.org](http://www.courthousequilters.org)

### Courthouse Quilters Guild Program

#### Workshop

Join us to create your poster for ShadFest and/or learn about creating a beautiful sea glass quilt with Juliet. Sign up here [Courthouse Quilters: CHQ March Shadfest and Sea Glass](#)



#### Evening Program

The art of Sherry Shine has been exhibited across the country in galleries, colleges, and museums.



Sign Up Here: [Courthouse Quilters: CHQ March Shadfest and Sea Glass](#)

Workshop details and supply list:

- Sea Glass Quilts:
  - Background Fabric: 15 X 24 or 24 X 24
  - Sea glass pieces: colors your choice
  - Heat & Bond
  - Parchment Paper or pressing sheet
  - Fabric Scissors
  - Ironing board
  - Iron
  - Sewing machine - if you come ready to sew
- Shadfest Poster:
  - Use whatever materials/techniques (mini quilt, fabric, paper, wood, painting, drawing, anything) you want to create a Shadfest poster
  - You do not have to finish during the workshop - you can start or finish at home
  - Poster blanks are 11"x17" and have a logo printed on them in portrait orientation - usable space closer to 11"x13"
  - Double sided tape will be available at the workshop for mounting
  - Gina will pick up poster blanks the week before the workshop -they do run out of poster blanks, so please do not wait until the last week to sign up
  - Consider bringing items to share in case others need ideas or materials

**April 27, 2025**

**\*\*Workshop\*\***

*Charity Sew-in:  
Quilts of Valor*

Location: Rt 12 County  
Complex

Time: 1:00 - 5:00  
FREE

**\*\*Evening Program\*\***

*2025 CHQ Challenge*  
Location: Rt 12 County  
Complex

[www.courthousequilters.org](http://www.courthousequilters.org)

**Courthouse Quilters Guild Program**

**Workshop**

Charity Sew-in - we will be working on quilt tops for Quilts of Valor in support of the Hunterdon County Group. Please bring red, white, and blue fabrics, sewing machines and supplies! Sign up here: [CHQ April Charity Sew In - Quilts of Valor](#)



**Evening Program**

Courthouse Quilters will present their creations for this year's challenge at our 37th Anniversary Celebration.



Sign Up Here: [Courthouse Quilters: CHQ April Charity Sew In - Quilts of Valor](#)

**2025 CHQ Anniversary Challenge**

***Musical Inspiration***

- Create a wall hanging, quilt, or another quilted item (example - bag or jacket) using the 45 record we have provided as your inspiration.
- Your piece can focus on the song from either side, or it can focus on the singer/group, or even on a lyric that speaks to you.
- While it is not necessary, it might be fun to incorporate the record into the piece.
- Submitted pieces will be displayed at the April 27, 2025 meeting.

**Can you dig it?**

## Courthouse Quilters Guild Program

**May 18, 2025**

**\*\*Workshop\*\***

*UFO Auction & Picnic*  
With auctioneer Dana  
Balsamo

Location: Rt 12 County  
Complex

Time: 3:00 - 6:30

[www.courthousequilters.org](http://www.courthousequilters.org)

### Workshop

Come have fun and bid on abandoned projects to take home and complete.



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### **Spring Selects Art Exhibit - Deb Brockway**

Three of Deb Brockway's small quilts will be on display in the Spring Selects art exhibit featuring works of photography, ceramics, and watercolors, in addition to her art quilts. All of the works are inspired by the natural world. An art reception with refreshments will be held from 2:30 - 4:00 pm on Sunday, March 23. The exhibit will be on display March 12 to May 9 at the Tulpehaking Nature Center, 157 Westcott Ave., Hamilton, NJ and can be viewed during the center's normal business hours: Wednesdays - Saturdays, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

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### **2025 Guild Meetings**

The guild generally meets on the third Sunday of the month but there are exceptions to that schedule due to holidays and availability of the meeting space.

The remaining 2025 meeting dates are:

- April 27, 2025 (4th Sunday)
- May 18, 2025
- June 22, 2025 (4th Sunday)
- July 20, 2025
- August 17, 2025
- September 21, 2025
- October 26, 2025 (4th Sunday)
- November 16, 2025
- December 21, 2025

## Executive Board, Committee Chairs, Special Committees

### Executive Board:

President: Lysa Martinelli

1st Vice President: Barbara Fusco

2nd Vice President: Kerry Cogan

Treasurer: Patty Gertz

Secretary: Donna Slovak

### Standing Committee Chairs:

Archivist: Regina Krejsa

Boutique: **Appointment On-Hold**

Charity & Outreach: Cheryl Dennis

Circulation: Jan Hunold

Hospitality: **Chair Needed**

Membership: Sara Mlynarchek

Newsletter/Photography: Al Accettola

Publicity: Dyan Rosario

Quilt Show: **Appointment On-Hold**

Web Presence: Cathie Giambalvo

### Ad-Hoc Committee Chairs:

4H Fair: **Chair Needed**

Raffle Quilt Sales 2026: **Chair Needed**

Raffle Quilt Construction 2026: Juliet Leonard

Nominating: Joan Lasota, Cass Garner, Kathy

Stewart

## Courthouse Quilters Guild: Our Mission

The purpose of our Guild is to:

- preserve and promote the tradition and history of quilting.
- to foster fellowship among interested persons in all aspects of quilting.
- to sponsor and support educational quilting activities.
- to encourage quilt making and collecting.
- to promote the appreciation of quilting throughout the community.
- and to support charitable activities.

**Website:** Visit the Courthouse Quilters website ([www.courthousequilters.org](http://www.courthousequilters.org)) for information on meetings, presentations, workshops, and general information about the guild.

**Facebook:** Become Facebook “friends” with Courthouse Quilters. Search for “Courthouse Quilters” and “like” us. See what guild members are posting related to quilting, sewing, art, and other interesting things.

**Newsletter:** The deadline for the newsletter is the Sunday following a meeting. For the even numbered months newsletter send all of your articles, news, photos and other newsworthy items to Al and for the odd numbered months send your information to Lysa.