Volume 6

ON POINT

The Official Newsletter of the Common Threads Quilt Guild of Lamoille County in Morrisville, Vermont

http://commonthreadsvt.org/ CommonThreadsVT@gmail.com

Issue 3

NOVEMBER 2026

The President's Block

Hello Friendly Quilters,

My daughter, Lauren, recently made a Facebook post talking about … "At some point, "I've always wanted to" has become "I did." I think we can all relate to that … we always have a reason to put that "something" off – maybe we don't have the talent, maybe we aren't strong enough, maybe we are too tired or too old or too stubborn…lol. I took this comment to heart when I signed up for Nina Clotfelter's Beginning Free Motion Quilting class this past weekend. I have always wanted to learn this skill, BUT I felt that I didn't have the patience to do it. And I was scared of it! WELL, that class was amazing and I am looking forward to trying to free motion quilt my own potholders and table runners. Don't get me wrong, I know it will be a looooonnnng time before I feel proficient. But at least I'm not scared anymore… Thank you, Lauren, for the enlightening post!

Our November meeting on Thursday, November 12th will be our Quilts of Valor Presentation. We will NOT have a formal business meeting. You are welcome to bring any of your BOMs or QOV blocks to turn in and we may or may not have time for Sew and Tell. We will have to just Wait and See.☺

Having said that, our December meeting will be a very full evening beginning with our Potluck at 6 pm. Many topics of discussion for our business meeting, Sew & Tell, and making holiday cards & gift tags. Please bring a pair of paper scissors, a glue stick or tape runner, one large button, and a needle & thread. The program may run past 8 pm. But don't despair, if you can't stay, the activities are prepackaged. You can take a picture of the example and put it together at home.

Remember, we still have the 26 in 2026 Challenge happening…there's still time!

Happily Stitching with You,
Jane Paine, 2026-2027 Guild President



President
Jane Paine 802-730-6575 (cell)
802-888-4555(home)

Vice President
Linda McGraw 802-730-9096

Secretary
Robin Wright 802-585-9152

Treasurer
Joyce Emerson 802-371-7038

Programs
Rotating Members

Newsletter
Sharon Perry 802-326-3135

Block of the Month
Andrea Blaisdell 802-635-8389

Sunshine Cards
Pam Gelineau 802-644-2855

Membership
Denise Mayo 802-585-5876

Sunshine Quilts
Marion Seasholtz 802-635-2731

Common Threads Quilt Guild meets the 1st Wednesday, March through December, at 6:30 p.m. at The United Church of Johnson, 100 Lower Main Street, Johnson

Dues = $25 annually

MISSION

To provide "Sunshine Quilts" to our neighbors and community members when needed and to promote an interest in the art of quilting through education and fellowship.

2025 - 2026 Guild Calendar

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM; MEETING STARTS AT 6:30 PM

September 2nd Left, Right, Center

October 8th Trunk Show with Nina Clotfelter at the Crosby Center 301 Brooklyn Street, in Morrisville

October 10th & 11th Workshops with Nina Clotfelter

November 12th QOV Presentation at Peoples Academy

2025 – 2026 Guild Calendar

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM; MEETING STARTS AT 6:30 PM

December 2nd Holiday "Paper Crafting" and Potluck

January Guild Work Day

February Guild Work Day

March 3rd Going "Batty" with Batting

2025 – 2026 Guild Calendar

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM; MEETING STARTS AT 6:30 PM

April 7th TBD

May 5th TBD

June 2nd TBD

July 7th Annual Meeting & Potluck

August 4th TBD

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance 9/15/2026		**$3,617.33**
Income		
9/25/2026 Nina Clotfelter Workshop	$135.00	
10/9/2026 Food Shelf Donations	$66.00	
10/12/2026 Nina Clotfelter Workshop	$90.00	
Total Income	$291.00	
Subtotal		**$4,851.33**
Expenses		
Check 647 Nina Clotfelter – Lecture, 1/3 of flight & insurance, Chop It Like It's Hot! Workshop, and 1/3 for shipping kits & samples	$1191.50	
Check 648 Franklin County Quilters Guild – Lodging and meals for Nina Clotfelter	$350.00	
Total Expenses	$1,541.50	
Ending Balance 10/13/2026		**$3,309.83**

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Emerson, Treasurer



PROGRAMS: LOOKING AHEAD…

November 2026: QOV Presentation Ceremony

December 2026: Holiday "Paper Crafting" & Potluck

January 2027: Guild Work Day

February 2027: Guild Work Day

March 2027: Going "Batty" with Batting

April 2027: Line by Line – Using Rulers to Make Your Life Easier and Gain Confidence

QUILT TIPS: A DEFINITIVE LIST OF THE 8 BEST QUILTING TOOLS FOR BEGINNERS

From Quilting Daily

- **Rotary Cutter:** Rotary cutters are one of the best quilting tools for beginners. Using a small, handheld cutting device to slice through fabric can be much easier and faster than scissors — especially when working with long strips and large pieces. Plus, rotary cutters also give you more control over how straight or curved your cuts are, allowing you to make precise measurements without having to worry about jagged edges. So if you're just starting out in quilting, owning a rotary cutter should definitely be at the top of your list! And remember: rotary cutters ALWAYS need to be used with a cutting mat and ruler — no exceptions.
- **Cutting Mat:** If you're a beginner quilter looking for the best tools to get started, the cutting mat should be at the top of your list! This indispensable tool is essential for precise and accurate measurements and cuts. A quality cutting mat will last you many years, so investing in one now will save time, effort, and frustration down the road. The best part? The mats come in all shapes and sizes—you can find one that fits perfectly into your workspace.
- **Rulers:** This may seem obvious, but one of the most essential tools for beginner quilters is a ruler! Quilting rulers are necessary for accurately measuring and cutting fabric to precise shapes and sizes, especially when using a rotary cutter. These specialty rulers are made of clear plastic with highly-visible measurements, making accurate cuts a reality. To start, consider buying a 6" x 24" ruler, then adding additional sizes as you need them.

Secretary's Report

COMMON THREADS MEETING MINUTES
October 8, 2026

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by President Jane Paine.
 # Present: 29 present**.**
Visitors: Nikki Burns, Laurel Schaap, guest speaker Nina Clotfelter, and her husband, Howard, welcomed.
Birthdays: Dorothy D'Andrea (10/4), Anne Harmon (10/6), Carolyn Babcock (10/9) and Denise Mayo (10/26).
Drawings: Discussed the decreasing participation; consensus to discontinue these drawings but continue the fat quarters for birthdays.
Secretary's Report: Robin Wheel moved to accept. Donna Hamel seconded. No discussion, motion passed.
Treasurer's Report: Tracey Morin and Joann Tallman met to audit the treasurer records from Sept 2024 to 2026. No discrepancies found. Suggestions are that invoices for all checks should be included with the checks and a list of all who paid should be recorded and given to the treasurer for the deposit. Robin Wheel moved to accept the report, Marion Seasholtz seconded. Motion passed.
Sunshine Cards: None this month.
Sunshine Quilts: Marion Seasholtz showed 5 of the larger quilts for fire victims that are now done after quilting. She thanked Andrea and others for the work to get the new storage trailer completed. The inventory was 5 large quilts, 59 lap quilts, 9 kids' quilts, 16 in progress, and 70 tops with backs ready to be sandwiched.
Announcements/ Reminders:

- This weekend is the workshops with Nina Clotfelter; openings are still available for Sunday.
- Church Chicken Pie dinner is October 10th, 5 pm – 7 pm; pie donations can be dropped off on Saturday.

Old Business: Quilt of Valor presentation will be on Thursday, November 12th. Peoples Academy Cafeteria – enter through the Middle Level entrance on the side, handicap accessible.

- Doors will be open at 5:45 pm and will lock at 8:15 pm. Meeting is at our regular time.
- Donna Hamel asked about invitations for the quilt recipients – Andrea will check with Lynne about the usual procedure and Donna will make invitations.
- Refreshments to be provided and we are encouraged to bring something to share.

New Business: Jane shared some thoughts for future work and meetings. She is interested in making smaller items to donate and looking at creating a budget for the upcoming year.

Possible topics for the March and April programs

- Going "Batty" with Batting.
- Line by Line – using rulers to make your life easier and gain confidence.

Block of the Month Presentation: Andrea shared this month's pattern. She showed the blocks that came in.

Program: Nina Clotfelter's presentation, *THREADS! What's the Big Deal?*

Sew and Tell: To follow the program.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Wright, Secretary

QUILT TIPS (Continued from page 2)

- **Seam Ripper:** Now the seam ripper is one tool that often gets overlooked. This little tool is an absolute essential when it comes to quilting projects because it allows you to quickly and easily remove unwanted stitches. It can be used to open up seams, take out stitching mistakes or even unpick hems. Plus, seam rippers make it easier to re-position pieces of fabric if needed. So if you're a beginner quilter looking for the best tools around – don't forget about this handy little helper!
- **Pins:** Every quilter, no matter their experience level, knows that straight pins are essential tools for any project. Even if you've been quilting for years, having the best pins on-hand can make all the difference when it comes to ensuring your work is precise and neat! Not only can they help keep your fabric in place while cutting, but they also make it easier to accurately piece together blocks and borders. So it comes as no surprise that these magical little pins are any incredibly important quilting tool!
- **Iron:** Ironing is an essential part of quilting — it sets the seams, presses your quilt blocks into shape, and ensures that all the layers are smooth and even. They also help guarantee accuracy when piecing fabrics together. So, if you're just starting out with quilting, make sure you invest in a good quality iron — it will be worth its weight in gold! We also recommend finding a good ironing board so you can properly press your fabric.
- **Fabric Scissors:** Believe it or not, fabric scissors are one of the best quilting tools for beginners. And you really only need two pair: a small embroidery scissor to clip threads, and a pair of shears to cut fabric! They'll help you achieve accurate cuts and precise angles, but they also provide an extra level of protection against fraying

SUNSHINE CARDS FOR OUR MEMBERS

If you know of a guild member who is in need of encouragement or comfort due to an illness, bereavement, etc., please contact Pam Gelineau, Pam.Gelineau@gmail.com, 802-644-2855. As a note, Pam prefers email notification when possible. She will send out an appropriate card.

GUILD MEETING LOCATION FOR NOVEMBER MEETING

The Common Threads Quilt Guild will meet on Thursday, November 12th, at the Peoples Academy Cafeteria; enter through the Middle Level entrance on the side, handicap accessible. Doors will be open at 5:45 pm and will lock at 8:15 pm. **Please note the change in date and place for the November meeting.**



NOVEMBER NIGHT
by Adelaide Crapsey

Listen...
With faint dry sound,
Like steps of passing ghosts,
The leaves, frost-crisp'd, break from the trees
And fall.

FEATURED VIDEO TUTORIAL FOR NOVEMBER:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLPHNOLiJ0U&list=PL-nal4iMTUJsZASiIRUTUeOTjz2-RT-Fi&index=1

Sew Cute Runner for November

Shabby Fabrics







Sharon Perry	November	2
Pam Gelineau	November	8
Robin Wheel	November	20
Amanda Rae	November	22
Sheila Cross	November	26

...and many more!!!





That is ***26 Finishes in 2026!***

Join in the fun and make 26 quilted projects by the end of 2026 and your name will be entered into a special drawing held in December 2026. If you'd like to participate, fill in your name and 26 projects you'd like to finish this year on the list below. This is your list…you can add to it throughout the year if need be to have 26 projects or you can remove a project, or swap out projects, etc…you just have to have ***26 Finishes in 2026*** AND you must show each project at one of the guild's monthly show and tell. You can show multiple projects in one month. You also don't have to show a project every month, you just have to have ***26 Finishes in 2026!*** You will maintain your own list, but you must let Sharon Perry know you are participating.

✂✂✂✂✂✂✂✂✂✂✂ Cut along dotted line ✂✂✂✂✂✂✂✂✂✂✂

26 in 2026 ***NAME:*** _____

1.	14.
2.	15.
3.	16.
4.	17.
5.	18.
6.	19.
7.	20.
8.	21.
9.	22.
10.	23.
11.	24.
12.	25.
13.	26.



Recipe Corner

CRANBERRY MAPLE CHICKEN

2 cups fresh or frozen cranberries
¾ cup water
⅓ cup maple sugar
6 boneless skinless chicken breast halves (4 oz each)
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon canola oil
¼ cup maple syrup

In a small saucepan, combine the cranberries, water and sugar. Cook over medium heat until berries pop, about 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, sprinkle chicken with salt and pepper. In a large nonstick skillet, cook chicken in oil over medium heat until juices run clear, 4-5 minutes on each side. Stir syrup into cranberry mixture; serve with chicken.

CRANBERRY JALAPEÑO CREAM CHEESE DIP

12 oz. cranberries, thawed if frozen (about 2½ cups)
2 jalapeños, seeded & quartered, plus slices for garnish
1 green onion, roughly chopped
2 tablespoons roughly chopped cilantro
1 cup sugar
Juice and zest of 1 lime
16 oz. cream cheese, at room temperature
¼ cup sour cream
Pinch of kosher salt
½ cup toasted pecans, chopped (optional)
Crackers, for serving

Place the cranberries, jalapeños, green onion, and cilantro in a food processor. Pulse 5 or 6 times until roughly chopped, then add the sugar, lime juice, and lime zest. Pulse 3 to 4 more times, just until incorporated (the mixture should still be chunky). Transfer to an airtight container and refrigerate at least 1 hour and up to overnight.

In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, combine the cream cheese, sour cream, and salt. Mix on medium-high speed until light and fluffy, 2 to 3 minutes. Transfer to a shallow bowl or pie plate or a serving platter, spreading in an even layer.

Strain any excess liquid from the cranberries, then stir in the pecans (if using). Spoon the cranberry mixture over the top of the cream cheese mixture. Garnish with the jalapeño slices and serve with crackers.

CRANBERRY SCONES

For the scones:
2 cups all-purpose flour
⅓ cup granulated sugar
2½ teaspoons baking powder
¾ teaspoon kosher salt
½ cup unsalted butter, cold, cut into ½-inch pieces
1 cup dried cranberries
1½ teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary
1 cup plus 1 tablespoon heavy cream
2½ teaspoons orange zest
For the glaze:
½ cup cranberry juice
1 cup powdered sugar
Pinch of kosher salt
1 to 2 drops pink food coloring (optional)

For the scones:
Preheat the oven to 400°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt. Using a pastry cutter, blend butter into flour mixture until butter resembles small peas and is evenly incorporated. Stir in the cranberries and rosemary. In a small bowl, stir together 1 cup of the heavy cream and the orange zest; add it to the flour mixture and stir until just combined.

Turn the dough out onto a clean work surface and, using floured hands, shape into a rough ball. Pat the dough into an 8-inch round disc (about 3/4-inch thick). Using a bench scraper or chef's knife, cut the disc into 8 even wedges. Transfer the wedges to the prepared baking sheet. (Scones can be frozen for up to 1 week. Don't thaw before baking.)

Brush the top of each wedge lightly with the remaining 1 tablespoon of heavy cream. Bake until lightly browned and risen, 22 to 25 minutes, or 24 to 26 minutes if baking from frozen. Transfer the scones to a wire rack to cool for at least 10 minutes.

For the glaze:
In a small saucepan, cook the cranberry juice over medium heat until reduced to 2 tablespoons, 8 to 12 minutes. Remove to a small heatproof bowl and let cool for 5 minutes.

Add powdered sugar and salt to reduced cranberry juice, and 1 to 2 drops of pink food coloring, if desired. Whisk until smooth. Drizzle the glaze over the scones. Let stand for 15 minutes for the glaze to harden.



Block of the Month

November 2026



Colors:

Make it scrappy with a white or white-on-white background



PATTERN: MEASURED BARS

Click this link for the block pattern



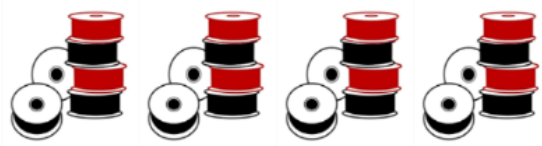
JOHNSON TOWN HALL SEWING DAYS

Sewing weekends are open again at the Johnson Town Hall. We set up on the second floor of the Town Hall (elevator available). Large tables are available plus ironing stations and a cutting table.

We meet on the first and third weekend of the month, arrival after 8 am, but you can sew as late as you want. A $2 daily donation is requested, going to the Town of Johnson for use of the space.

At this time we are planning to have a mailing list only for change of plans, you can send your email to Robin Wright, growingfarm00@gmail.com or Hilda Tallman, sammnvt57@yahoo.com to be on that list. Reminder emails the week before will no longer be going out.

All crafters are welcome!



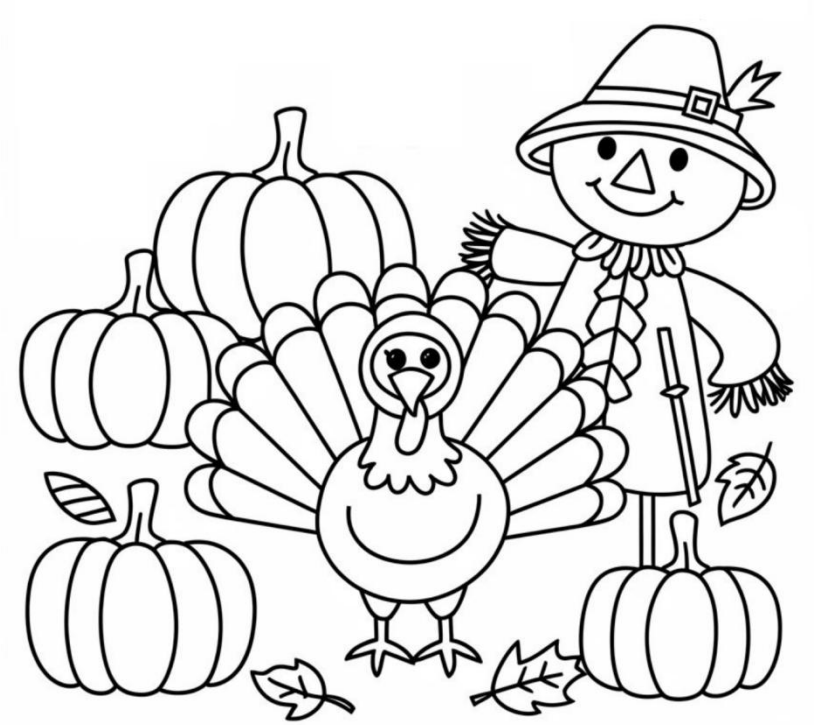
QUILT TIPS (Continued from page 3)

or tearing in fabrics. Tip: Use your fabric scissors only on fabric – not on paper! Using them exclusively for fabric will keep the blades perfectly sharp.

- **Batting:** No matter how skilled you are, you won't get very far into making a quilt without batting! It's one of the best quilting tools for beginners for a reason. Not only does it provide insulation and warmth, but it also helps to even out the weight of the quilt top and backing materials. Without quality batting, your quilt won't look as professional or last as long. To make things a bit easier for beginner quilters, you can actually buy a packaged batting sized specifically for their project!



EMBROIDERY PATTERN FOR NOVEMBER





LINK TO BARN QUILT TRAIL OF NORTHERN VERMONT

http://www.barnquiltsofnorthernvermont.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 CommonThreadsVT@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:

Sunday, November 15th, 2026

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

Next Meeting is *November 12th Elizabeth Cady Stanton Day*



"November is tied together with the heartstrings of gratitude."
– J. A. McIntosh