



AMHERST
QUILTERS GUILD

Upcoming Program - Patricia Ohtake and Gail Kratt

The Amherst Quilters Guild will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, July 16**, at the Honorable Shirley Chisholm Library (formerly the Audubon Library), located at 350 John James Audubon Parkway.

Our program for July continues our 2026 Year of Inspiration theme. In this program, **Patricia Ohtake**, an award winning quilter and quilting educator with over 50 years of experience, will explore the specialized piecing technique of foundation piecing, more commonly known as paper piecing. Paper piecing is often used to ensure extreme piecing precision – resulting in crisp points and clean lines. However, the traditional method of paper piecing requires many copies of the pattern, sewing through the paper, and tedious removal of the paper after the blocks are constructed. Thankfully, paper piecing with freezer paper streamlines the paper piecing process while producing the same precise results as the traditional method. In her presentation “**Paper Piecing with Freezer Paper**”, Patricia will share her experience with paper piecing with freezer paper and illustrate the power of this technique with several of her quilts. During the program, the advantages of and the technique for the freezer paper method of paper piecing will be presented. Program participants will have the option to acquire hands on experience with the paper piecing with freezer paper technique by creating a simple paper pieced block.

Supply List and Preparation for the Optional Program Activity – There is some preparation required to be ready to participate in the program activity.

Here is the supply list for items to bring to the program:

- Small cutting mat (at least 8” on a side)
- Rotary cutter
- Cutting ruler (at least 8” on a side)
- Fabric scissors
- Paper scissors
- Straight pins
- Glue stick
- Stapler
- Pattern (see Preparation instructions)
- Fabric pieces (see Preparation instructions)

Preparation instructions:

1. Print 2 copies of the block pattern. (available at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZMfuQCVAIx6k_laBgiuj_aVz-lCRlIG7/view?usp=sharing)
2. With paper scissors, cut apart the pattern blocks of one copy of the pattern. With the second pattern copy, cut only around the outside, keeping the pattern intact.
3. Identify the fabric you wish to use for your block and cut as follows. Place the individual pattern pieces (A1 – A7) on the **wrong side** of their corresponding fabrics. Using your rotary cutter, cut a fabric piece for each block (A1 – A7) leaving at least 3/8” seam allowance. These fabric pieces do not need to be cut out accurately. They will be trimmed to their final size during the piecing process.

Focused Show and Share – you are welcome to bring a completed quilt in which you have used the traditional or freezer paper paper piecing technique.

We look forward to hearing about your experiences using this technique – both successes and challenges.

Nonmembers are welcome to attend, meet members of the community, and enjoy the program. A \$5 donation, which can be deducted from the annual \$40 membership, will be collected.

President's Message - Kathleen Karnath

The weather has cooled down a bit, so I hope you are enjoying the summer!

I'm proud to say that the Amherst Quilters Guild is over the hump of any uncertainty or instability that was initiated when we separated from the Amherst Museum. Through the efforts of a previous board(s?), we are an independent legal entity. After skipping a quilt show in 2024, we had a very successful quilt show 2026 and have our Quilt Show Committee Chairpersons and dates in place for 2028. We are on solid ground financially due to the quilt show, opportunity quilt and fabric donation sales income. And we have many dedicated committee chairpersons working on everything from membership, advertising/publicity, programs, workshops, community service, hospitality, etc., etc.

This allows us the opportunity to think about what we want to do from here and plan ahead. There was great enthusiasm about doing a seminar, like what was done in the past; there was talk of lowering dues; the guild could further subsidize our holiday party or workshops; have a catered summer picnic; we could offer partial scholarships to members to attend workshops; we could donate money to charitable organizations or purchase specific supplies for making up charity quilt kits; add to the AccuQuilt supplies, etc., etc.

At our July 7 meeting, the board decided to lower dues for 2027 to \$30 for new members and \$25 for renewing members! But we still have other opportunities to enhance our efforts to achieve our mission and goals of

education for our members, service to our community, and promoting the skill of quilting to the public. Please let me or any member of the board know your thoughts and/or ideas.

We have the Shirley Chisholm library (formerly the Audubon Library) reserved for **Community Service/Open Sew** for July through October (it's air conditioned!). At our June Community Service, we used the AccuQuilt to cut white 2 ½" strips to be combined with some batik 2 ½" strips for a couple charity quilt kits that will be available at the next meeting. We were also pleased to see some new faces at Community Service, Patti Young and Cindi Renaldo – I hope you'll become regulars at Community Service/Open Sew! After delivering 41 quilts to Golisano Children's Hospital Jean's closet was emptied, but *thank you to MaryAnn Braunscheidel* there are already 2 completed quilts restocking that closet and destined to the oncology unit at Children's. And thank you to all those who worked on those 41 quilts that were delivered!!

Jean has gone even further and put together 14 additional Community Service Quilt Kits at home! You can select a kit at the next meeting to make at home or please come to the next Community Service/Open Sew on July 23, 10 am – 2 pm at the Shirley Chisholm library and make one there!

Jean has pretty much exhausted the stash of guild fabric and dipped into her own, as have I. So, if you have some fabric that you don't like/don't need, bring it to a meeting and Jean and her committee will work to kit it for charity quilts. Solids, blenders and child oriented fabrics are requested; holiday or religious oriented fabrics are respectfully declined for our charity quilts.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting on July 16!

Christmas in July!

There will be Christmas/holiday fabric for sale at the July meeting. Fabric is measured and priced at \$4/yard, with all proceeds going to Amherst Quilters Guild. So think about your holiday project fabric needs, come early to get the best selection, and bring some \$ to shop!

AQG Meeting Notes - June 18

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Kathleen welcomed new member (Cindy) and visitors (Martha and JoAnn).

Kathleen shared with the members she provided Lori Racle with a lifetime membership to the Guild based on her past participation and generous donations of the Accuquilt/Dies and fabric.

We have joint chairs from the 2028 Quilt Show - Sally Ginsberg and MaryAnn Braunscheidel.

Program - Strategies for Precise Piecing presented by Linda Hunter Linda provided guidance on sashing, borders, 4-square patch and half-square triangles. Her presentation included sample quilts, a hands-on activity, ruler education and a take-away handout

What I learned: Sashing/Borders: If you have sashing around your quilts inside blocks, you should provide sashing around the outside as well. The Rule of Thumb on sashing is less than $\frac{1}{3}$ the width of your block. The Border Rule: each color of the border fabric should be less than or equal to the width of the block. To help align blocks when using sashing, mark the wrong side of the sashing to align blocks. 4-Patch: Working in multiples helps to stay precise.

A hands-on activity was demonstrated. Half-Square Triangles: Sew & Flip method can easily generate a pinwheel. The Easy Angle Ruler saves fabric, although it is more time-consuming because your cuts are one at a time vs. some other methods that can generate 8 or 12 at a time.

Meeting Discussion and Committee Reports

President's Message - We have an Accuquilt Chairperson (Patti Young) There is a new quilt shop in Lockport offering the Guild 10% discount. There is a classroom area available as well (cost: \$5/person)

Membership - The Guild currently stands at 53 members, including Lori Racle.

Nominating Committee - in process. Openings include President, 2nd Vice President and Treasurer

Media - no report

QCNYS - Passports still available; Raffle Tickets for 40-year anniversary of

the consortium also available. QCNYS 40th Anniversary meeting including the AQG presentation will be held Saturday, September 19 and will be followed by a quilting workshop. As members of the Guild, you are able to attend these quarterly meetings. For more information, contact Patti Young (text:716-206-4892)

Treasurer's Report -Carol was not in attendance. Kathleen stated that our finances are in order.

Program - Patricia Ohtake will be demonstrating Freezer Paper Piecing with an optional activity at our next meeting July 16..

Refreshments - MaryAnn Braunschiedel

Sue Dray and Amy Fritzeiger have volunteered to bring a snack. If you would like to bring a beverage, please text MaryAnn at 716-308-3655.

Education

AQG Workshop: Braided Table Runner

Date: Saturday, September 19, at the: Shirley Chisholm Library (formerly Audubon); Time: 10:15am - 4:00pm; Instructor: Sue Dray;

Attendance Fee: \$15.00 for members (the guild is providing to members the supplement for extra cost) \$25.00 for non-members.

Participants will bring their own lunch and drink. Education Committee will provide snacks. Information on supplies will be given to participants. There will be a Sign - Up Sheet at the July 16 AQG meeting, with Sue explaining the project. Many of you have requested this workshop; thus we've made this reasonably priced. We look forward to seeing you for this clever, easy to make design taught by Sue Dray, one of our talented members and teachers. To register send check payable to Amherst Quilters Guild to Rebecca Ribis, 109 Burke Drive, Buffalo 14215.

AQG Workshop: Wool Pumpkin

Date: Saturday, October 3, at the Shirley Chisholm Library (formerly Audubon); Time: 10:15am - 4:00 pm; Instructor: Cindy Heubacher; Attendance Fee: \$20.00 Kit plus \$15.00 Attendance = \$35 total. (The guild is providing to members the supplement for extra cost) \$45.00 total for non-members.

Participants will bring their own lunch and drink. Education Committee will provide snacks. Supplies needed: glue gun if you have one, glue sticks for glue gun (you still need glue sticks for a gun to borrow from Cindy), scissors to cut wool. To register send check payable to Amherst Quilters Guild to Rebecca Ribis, 109 Burke Drive, Buffalo 14215. There will be a Sign - Up Sheet at the July 16 AQG meeting.

AccuQuilt Cutter and Dies

I will bring the cutter, the 2-½ inch strip die and Half-Square Triangle die to the July 16 meeting. I'll be available between 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. to provide a quick demo/guidance on using these tools. After this meeting, if you are interested in working with the system, refer to the options below.

Options to Borrow AQG AccuQuilt Cutter and Dies

7-day notice is required:

1. Use at or Pick Up during Monthly Meeting (5:30 - 6:30 p.m.)
2. Use at or Pick Up during Monthly Community/Open Sew (11:45 am-2 pm)
3. At Your Own Home - request via text (Patti Young - 716-206-4892) and arrange pick up and return dates/times.

Please review the list of available dies on the AQG Website. Then, contact Patti Young via text (716-206-4892) to let me know the specific dies you'd like to borrow as well as the timeframe for use. About 2 weeks maximum is suggested.

Round Robin

There are 2 groups participating. The first exchange of quilt block/fabrics

was performed. The first borders will be added and the next round robin exchange will be at the July 16th Guild meeting.

Community Service by Jean Miller

is on July 23, 10 am at the Shirley Chisholm Library. (It's air conditioned!!!) Bring a kit you picked up at the meeting or your own work!

We are looking for more quilters. Community Sew continues last Thursday of the month at the library from 10-2. When making these quilts, don't forget the labels. Jean has a supply. We have donated 41 quilts to Children's Hospital. Forever Hugs Quilts is another organization looking for "used" quilts. They are donated to people in need.

2026 AQG Challenge Quilt – The Quilted Word

It's time to start planning your 2026 AQG Challenge Quilt entry. This year, members are challenged to create a small quilt that illustrates one or more words and the emotions it(they) evoke. The Challenge Quilts will be presented at the January 2027 meeting.

Challenge quilts will be:

- original design that incorporates one or more words
- no larger than 120" perimeter
- comprised of three layers (top, batting, and backing)
- bound and quilted through all three layers and have visible quilting by hand, machine, or both
- made using fabrics of any color

- made using any of the following techniques: pieced, foundation (paper) pieced, English paper pieced, hand or machine applique, hand or machine embroidery.

Save the Dates 2026

Thurs, July 16 - AccuQuilt demo 5:30-6:15

Thurs, July 16 Monthly meeting at the Shirley Chisholm Library (formerly the Audubon Library), 6:30-8:30pm

Thurs, July 23 - Community Service/Open Sew 10am-2pm at the Shirley Chisholm Library (formerly the Audubon Library)

Wed, July 29 thru Sat, Aug 1, Second Stitch is hosting a \$10 fill-a-bag sale, stocked with festive fabric, notions, and craft supplies for Christmas and other winter holidays too.

Sat, Sept 19, Workshop: Braided Table Runner at the: Shirley Chisholm Library (formerly Audubon); Time: 10:15am - 4:00pm;

Sat, Oct 3 - Workshop: Wool Pumpkin at the Shirley Chisholm Library (formerly Audubon); Time: 10:15am - 4:00 pm

Officers

President - Kathleen Karnath

First Vice President - Patricia Ohtake & Gayle Kratt

Second Vice President - Heather Buechi

Secretary - Patti Young

Treasurer - Carol Roy

Committee Chairs

Challenge Quilts - Patricia Ohtake

Community Service - Jean Miller & Judy Balcerzak

Education - Rebecca Ribis, Linda Hunter, Sally Ginsberg, Judy Phillips

Facebook - Heather Buechi

Hospitality - MaryAnn Braunscheidel

Program - Patricia Ohtake & Gayle Kratt

Publishing Editor - MaryAnn Krafft

Quilt Show 2028 - MaryAnn Braunscheidel & Sally Ginsberg

Sunshine & Shadows - Linda Hunter

Website - Carolynn Krupp