

QUILTER OF THE MONTH: We often feature one of our members as Quilter of the Month. This presentation takes place following Show & Tell, and is a great opportunity to see one member's palette of colors and styles.

RAFFLE: Raffles are held at most meetings to raise funds for Guild activities. Tickets are purchased for a chance to win prizes donated by members, usually fabrics or other useful quilting items. The Committee accepts donated prizes at the front table prior to the start of the Main Program. The prizes are awarded near the end of each monthly meeting, and winning tickets are drawn until all items are distributed.

SCRAP TABLE: Each month members bring in donations of fabrics, trimmings and patterns for the Scrap Table. The Scrap Table opens at the end of the meeting in the room beyond the restrooms. When you have selected your scraps, a member of the committee will set the price. Scrappers are required to donate at least 25¢ per scrap. (Bills are gladly accepted!) Proceeds fund the Guild's activities.

SHOW & TELL: Members display their completed works, heirloom items, unique purchases or works-in-progress. Photographs are taken to post on the guild website. If you have items to show, complete a slip at the Membership Table, where you sign in .

SWAP: To help members get a large variety of fabrics in each month's designated colors and patterns, you can register your squares at the swap table at the beginning of the meeting and receive others at the end of the meeting.

VENDOR OF THE MONTH: Most months a different vendor comes to the meeting with special wares, usually fabrics, notions, and books.

VOLUNTEERING: Our guild is only as good as our volunteers. There are many volunteer opportunities, and the more involved you become, the more fun you'll have! Some tasks like selling Raffle tickets or helping with the meeting activities can be performed during the meeting, while others like the newsletter and programs require several hours during the month. Contact a committee member if you can lend a hand.

WORKSHOPS: The guild hosts half-day and full-day workshops throughout the year led by quilting experts and professionals. The workshops are open to both members and non-members. Check the Newsletter or Website for upcoming workshops.

Empire Quilters, Inc. is a non-profit organization founded in 1982 to preserve & promote the tradition, culture, and history of quilt making, and to foster good fellowship among persons interested in the art of quilting in the greater New York area. The Guild has a continuing commitment to raising the level of appreciation of quilts among the general public, to using our talents in service to our community, and to the exchanging of our skills, ideas, and visions with one another. National Quilters Assoc. Chapter, 494.

Mailing Address:
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GUILD INFORMATION:

Welcome to Empire Quilters! Our quilt guild meets in New York City and everyone is welcome. We have members from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and beyond.

*Guild meetings generally take place on the second Saturday of every month from September to June at **Church of the Holy Apostles, 1 p.m. 296 Ninth Avenue at 28th St in Manhattan.** Meeting days are full of a variety of activities. You can come for part of the day, or all day.*

This leaflet describes the main guild activities that take place at the monthly meetings and throughout the year, and specifies the time and location for each activity. Changes in the schedule or location are announced in the Newsletter and on the guild website.

WEBSITE : www.empirequilters.net

FACEBOOK : facebook.com/empirequilters

INSTAGRAM : instagram.com/empirequilters

TWITTER : twitter.com/empirequilters

EMAIL: info@empirequilters.net

BLOCK OF THE MONTH: Quilt block patterns and instructions are available at www.empirebom.blogspot.com Participation is voluntary and offers a fun way to learn a new technique. Block makers' names are entered in a drawing each month to win all the blocks. Turn in your blocks to the Block of the Month table and complete a slip to be entered in the drawing.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS: The Board or Directors meets at 11 am before the monthly guild meetings. Guild members are welcome to attend, and minutes of the meeting are posted on the guild website. The agenda includes announcements, reports from officers and various administrative details involved in maintaining a not for-profit guild.

BUS TRIPS: During the year the guild plans out-of town bus trips for shopping, visits to shows and museums. Trips are open to members and non-members, but space is limited, so watch the newsletter and website for details.

CHARITY (SERVICE) PROJECTS: Guild members are encouraged to contribute their time and expertise to the charity projects and activities that are held throughout the year. Making items to be donated to the needy through hospitals, nursing homes, shelters, disaster relief etc; or delivering finished quilts to local organizations. Members are requested to make at least one charity quilt a year, or to contribute time or materials to the Service Committee which handles all charitable donations. This committee maintains a table at each meeting where items are collected for distribution to charities. Once a year, usually in March, the guild devotes a full meeting day to completing as many quilts as possible for charity. It is a good time to make new friends and learn new tips from the experts. We encourage members to tell us of organizations in need of quilts. In December we distribute stockings and drawstrings bags we've made and filled to children in various shelters and hospitals.

CLASSIFIED ADS: Members are invited to place a free, needle-art-related classified ad in the Newsletter. Advertise sewing equipment, books, fabrics or services that you wish to sell. Ads can be up to 30 words and the guild member's name and phone number must appear in the ad. The Newsletter publishes a maximum of three consecutive listings.

FLEA MARKETS: Once or twice a year members can purchase tables for a nominal fee and sell their treasures to guild members. Typical items include fabric, patterns, notions, hand-made items, and books.

FOCUS GROUPS: Focus Groups meet in the morning before the main program. They are open to all guild members and led by members who have an interest in sharing their knowledge. The topics offered depend on the volunteers who teach. New groups are formed throughout the year. Participation is free of charge, but participants need to supply any required materials. The newsletter and website list the current and upcoming groups. Focus Groups are a wonderful opportunity to learn a new skill, perfect an old one, or — better yet!— to share your tips and skills with other members.

GENERAL MEETING: The monthly general meeting usually takes place on the second Saturday of every month from September to June. The meeting is called to order by the guild President promptly at 1:00 pm.

GUILD QUILT SHOW: Approximately every two years the guild sponsors a members-only quilt show featuring members' quilts, challenge quilts, vendors, lectures, workshops, demonstrations, a boutique selling hand made items, and a member-made fundraising quilt raffle.

LIBRARY: The guild maintains a large collection of current and classic books about quilting for members to borrow. A complete list of library books can be found on the guild Website. Peruse the list and request a book two weeks prior to the meeting day. Library hours are 12:00 to 1:00 pm on meeting days. Donations of books (in good condition) and magazines are welcome. Magazines are offered for sale and the library occasionally holds a book sale.

MEMBERSHIP TABLE: Members are requested to sign in each month at the membership table, and to check for any corrections to your mailing address, phone numbers and email address. Members can pay dues, pick up membership cards and find Show & Tell forms to complete if you have an item to show at the meeting. You'll also find other handouts highlighting guild activities or events of interest in the community.

NEWSLETTER: The monthly Newsletter is distributed to members via email in PDF format, and is available via mail if members do not have an email address for an extra \$5 per year. The newsletter contains a message from the president, information about upcoming meetings and projects, volunteering opportunities, as well as updates on focus groups, programs, bus trips and ads from local businesses. We encourage members to write articles about quilt related subjects, and to let us know if they've taken part in a show. Submit items to newsletter@empirequilters.net.

PROGRAMS: Most months feature a Guest Speaker., usually a well-known quilter or fiber artist. February is Members Teaching Members day and March is Charity Day. December's meeting is our annual holiday party. The program is always varied, and is a highlight of the meeting day. Up to date listings of programs can be found on the web at www.empirequilters.net/programs.php for details on upcoming programs & speakers.